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**MINUTES  
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
October 25, 2016  
CITY HALL  
250 Hamilton Avenue  
Palo Alto, California**

13 **Commissioners Present:** Anne Cribbs, Jennifer Hetterly, Ed Lauing, David Moss, Keith  
14 Reckdahl

15 **Commissioners Absent:** Jim Cowie, Abbie Knopper

16 **Others Present:** Eric Filseth

17 **Staff Present:** Daren Anderson, Catherine Bourquin, Rob de Geus, Peter Jensen, Kristen  
18 O'Kane

19 **I. ROLL CALL CONDUCTED BY:** Catherine Bourquin

20  
21 **II. AGENDA CHANGES, REQUESTS, and DELETIONS:**

22  
23 Chair Lauing: Are there any agenda changes or requests or deletions?  
24

25 **III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

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27 Chair Lauing: If anyone from the public wants to address the Commission on any subject  
28 not on the agenda, please feel out a card and hand it to Catherine. Then, you can speak  
29 on that.  
30

31 **IV. BUSINESS:**

32  
33 **1. Approval of Draft Minutes from September 27, 2016 Parks and Recreation  
34 Commission Meeting.**  
35

36 Approval of the draft September 27, 2016 Minutes was moved by Commissioner Hetterly  
37 and seconded by Commissioner Cribbs. Passed 5-0  
38



1           **2.     City of Palo Alto Special Events Update**

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3           Chair Lauing: The next item is the City of Palo Alto special events update from  
4           Stephanie Douglas, introduced by Kristen.

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6           Kristen O'Kane: Good evening, Chair and Commissioners. I would like to welcome  
7           Stephanie Douglas, our Recreation Superintendent in Community Services here tonight.  
8           She is going to be presenting to us on our special events program, including a recap of  
9           what we've done in the past year and what we plan on doing this year. This is just an  
10          informational item to share some of the good work that Stephanie and her team are doing.

11  
12          Stephanie Douglas: Thank you very much. Again, my name is Stephanie Douglas,  
13          Superintendent of Recreation. Good to be here this evening, talking about special events  
14          here in the City of Palo Alto. When talking about special events, I think the first thing is  
15          really why do we do them. It's really to bring people together, build community. Special  
16          events weave the fabric of our community by creating opportunities to interact, promote  
17          inclusiveness, build family traditions and support economic and emotional growth.  
18          You'll see on the slide—I have two pictures up there. Those are actually my kids at the  
19          most recent Moonlight Run. My daughter, Madison, is climbing the rock climbing wall  
20          right there. My family is doing the Walk. When I talk about special events, I really take  
21          it personally because I know for me that really makes me feel like I'm part of the  
22          community. Even though I may not live here in Palo Alto, when I do these events I feel  
23          like I'm part of something bigger and greater. Going over what we've done. This is what  
24          we've done in the fiscal year 2015-2016. The Chili Cook-Off event, as I'm sure all of you  
25          are aware, is our biggest event that we do. We have a community health fair in which we  
26          partner with the YMCA. We have a Moonlight Run, which I just mentioned, which is a  
27          partnership with the Palo Alto Weekly. We did a Lucie Stern bridal fair, past September  
28          2015. We did a Meet the Streets in conjunction with the Palo Alto Chamber and also the  
29          City Manager's Office. We did a Veteran's Day event. You'll notice the items in bold;  
30          these are new events that we did for 2015-2016. We did a Veteran's Day event, again in  
31          partnership with the City Manager's Office. Holiday tree lighting, seniors New Year's  
32          bash which is an event that we do for seniors on New Year's Eve. Mitchell Community  
33          Center anniversary, we did a frozen-themed event to celebrate the one-year anniversary  
34          of the building opening. Summer camp registration fair, which is an opportunity for  
35          people to come out and learn about the summer camps that we'll be offering. The Great  
36          Race for Saving Water is a partnership with our Utilities Department that we do, which  
37          really promotes saving water and the environment. A Bryant Street Garage Fund Gala,  
38          this event was—the first year doing it was really an opportunity to acknowledge all of the  
39          grants that we funded through the Bryant Street Garage and honor the teen projects. The  
40          May Fete Parade, again, is our second biggest event that we do in the community. We  
41          did a Journey for Veterans Walk, and that was in partnership with the Community  
42          Manager's Office. Veterans actually walked from southern California up to northern



1 California. One of their stops was here in Palo Alto. We had a Teen Buoyancy Festival  
2 and Concert. Again this was a new event for this year. This was an event that was  
3 actually planned by a teen advisory commission and youth board. They came up with the  
4 name buoyancy, and it was actually a concert along with some carnival rides and some  
5 carnival-type activities. World Music Day we do in partnership with the Palo Alto  
6 Recreation Foundation. Again, you can see these are a lot of events that we do. This is  
7 just recreation; it doesn't take into account events that are also done by other departments  
8 and divisions. Looking at the future, one of the first things that I wanted to do was find  
9 out what does the community really want. It's easy to kind of sit back and get  
10 imaginative and come up with all these events, but you really want to find out what the  
11 community is looking for. We went ahead and did a survey. We did this survey May  
12 through July of 2016. The survey basically gave people an opportunity to put down what  
13 they would like to see in the community. To kind of get a better idea, we actually gave  
14 them examples of events so that they could choose which one they would be most likely  
15 to attend. Events that we gave them were an event called Dogtober Fest Celebration,  
16 which was a pet-focused celebration that embraces families and their pets. A Memorial  
17 Day observance. Since our Veterans Day event was so popular, we wanted to see if  
18 people wanted to have more events that would honor fallen heroes in the armed services.  
19 A kite flight festival, which is an arts and sciences focused event with expert kite flying,  
20 children's kite making workshop and a public kite flying demonstration. A biannual  
21 bridal fair. Although we already do a bridal fair, we're kind of looking to see if that's an  
22 event that the community really wants. That event showcases wedding services vendors  
23 and the Lucie Stern Community Center. A tech specs festival, which is an event that  
24 focuses on technology, past, present and future. We would have that at Mitchell Park.  
25 Then, we gave an opportunity for respondents to put their own ideas; we had an "other"  
26 category. The survey received a total of 564 responses. We distributed the survey at  
27 May Fete Parade, the Chili Cook-Off, online and also at all of our community centers. 80  
28 percent of the respondents were Palo Alto residents, and only 20 percent resided outside  
29 of Palo Alto, primarily Mountain View, Sunnyvale, Los Altos and San Jose. From that  
30 survey, we got some really great feedback. One of the things that really popped out is  
31 this community likes their pets, and they would like to have a Dogtober Fest event. That  
32 was 70 percent of the respondents that marked that as one of the items that they would  
33 attend. 15 percent of the respondents marked "other" and provided their own ideas with  
34 the most popular recurring themes suggesting arts, wine and food festival, bike or  
35 transportation expos, and earth or nature-themed events. Those were the major groupings  
36 that we extracted out of the survey. We also asked the respondents what events they  
37 attend currently. Because we distributed it at May Fete and Chili Cook Off, that got a  
38 high rate. Also, the Moonlight Run was recorded as being a very highly attended event.  
39 From this survey, we really want to put words into action here. We're looking at the  
40 future and looking at the survey and saying, "What can we do to really make sure that the  
41 community is getting what they're requesting?" One of the feedback we got was kind of  
42 a bike or mobility expo. Ironically, we're already in the process of planning an event like



1 that. That actually occurred on October 2nd of this year. We had 800 people in  
2 attendance. It was basically an opportunity for people to learn about alternative  
3 transportation. It was in partnership with the annual Bike Palo Alto event. I foresee this  
4 event probably becoming an annual, ongoing partnership and event. The next event that  
5 we're working on is an Earth Day festival. Although we have the Great Race for Water  
6 5K, we're really looking to expand that event. April 22nd is a Saturday, and it also  
7 happens to be Earth Day. We're going to be hosting a very large festival event promoting  
8 environmental awareness. We're still going to have a 5K run and just really expanding  
9 that event. Last but certainly not least, because the community really wants to have a pet-  
10 type event, we are going to host a Dogtober Fest in October of 2017. We're looking at  
11 having that event at the dog park and having the outside area be a festival with pet  
12 vendors, food trucks, dog treats, prizes, giveaways, dog rescues, anything that you can  
13 think of that would really support animals and families and people. We're looking  
14 forward to getting that one on the way. With that, we're also looking at all of the events  
15 that we already do, really kind of polishing them up a little bit. Things that we're looking  
16 at this year is for our tree lighting event. We're actually getting a little bit of a stage,  
17 we're getting some lighting out there, so it's a little bit more polished. We're looking at  
18 our seniors' New Year's Eve brunch. We're actually partnering with Avenidas this year  
19 and having it at Avenidas. We hope to get more seniors to attend that event, because it'll  
20 be at a location that they're comfortable with and are familiar with. Little things like that,  
21 that we can do to take the events that we already have and really just kind of take them to  
22 that next level is also a top priority for our staff. With that, I have ended the PowerPoint  
23 with a little collage of all the events that we do, ranging from teen events to children's  
24 events, adult events, senior events. It's really quite an honor to work in Palo Alto,  
25 because it is a City that really embraces community and special events. It's nice to have  
26 that support and to be able to be creative and do new things. With that, if you have any  
27 questions, I'll be happy to answer them.

28  
29 Chair Lauing: Terrific. That's really cool. We sort of see all these things but not all  
30 together. It's quite an impact when you put them all together and make those comments.  
31 It's very cool. Comments from Commissioners one way or the other. Commissioner  
32 Hetterly.

33  
34 Commissioner Hetterly: I have a question. In the past, I think, for several years we did a  
35 service day, probably around Martin Luther King. Did we not do that this year? If so,  
36 why? Is that something we've decided isn't working or wasn't successful?

37  
38 Ms. Douglas: I know that's in partnership with ...

39  
40 Rob de Geus: YCS.

1 Ms. Douglas: Yeah, YCS. I do know they're looking at doing that event again this year.  
2 I may have failed to put it on that here, but that's another event. We have so many it's  
3 hard to keep up. That's definitely another event that we will be doing and continuing to  
4 do.

5  
6 Mr. de Geus: I think we did do it this year, but it was a smaller event. We've done it for,  
7 I think, 5 or 6 years. Some years, it's very successful. We actually do service projects  
8 right here on the Plaza with Youth Community Services being the lead agency, but we  
9 provide support. It's a great event.

10  
11 Commissioner Hetterly: I think that's the best element of it, when you actually have  
12 projects that people can go work on. I think in some years when you show up and there's  
13 nothing to do but visit the tables, it's not quite the same as being able to actually  
14 contribute. It would be great to be able—it sounds like YCS is the lead. It would be  
15 great to be able to have some projects around the City that people can sign up for in  
16 advance and participate in. The Cubberley Compact Day, they did that great tree planting  
17 project. That kind of thing, people really love to do. It really (crosstalk).

18  
19 Mr. de Geus: There's also a national movement called Make a Difference Day. I think it  
20 was just recently. Last year, with the leadership of then-Mayor Holman, we did some  
21 things. This year we did less, but it's another event that I think we could do something  
22 with. It's a big movement, and it's another sort of volunteer service type of orientation.  
23 The School District is quite involved with that. That's one we're looking at as well  
24 adding.

25  
26 Chair Lauing: Commissioner Reckdahl.

27  
28 Commissioner Reckdahl: Impressive list. I knew we did a lot, but when you see it all in  
29 a big list, it really is a nice variety of things. I was wondering of the existing ones that  
30 were on that first page how many of them—are they all driven by CSD or do we have  
31 other groups like YCS that are actually doing the organizing and the promotion of it?

32  
33 Ms. Douglas: We do have partnerships with some of the agencies. The ones that I listed  
34 are the ones where CSD does have a pretty substantial role in them. There are other  
35 events that sometimes we do assist in a minor way, like we'll provide tables or chairs or  
36 co-sponsorship, but we don't necessarily have staff on hand. The events listed here are  
37 events that staff have actually participated in and been a major factor in.

38  
39 Commissioner Reckdahl: How does it work for the setup and cleanup? Does CSD have  
40 to pay for that or is that some City overhead where we can get workers that are full-time  
41 employees come down and do setup and cleanup?



1 Ms. Douglas: Typically, depending on the nature of the event, we'll have full-time staff.  
2 Like we had the bike expo, our full-time staff would do the setup and the cleanup. If it's  
3 at one of our facilities, we have custodial staff that we'll have do those events, and that  
4 would come out of the CSD budget.

5  
6 Mr. de Geus: Just to add to that, Stephanie, we sometimes contract with the Downtown  
7 Streets Team—they've been terrific—for some of our big events. Really, really good.

8  
9 Commissioner Reckdahl: Is May Fete on here?

10  
11 Mr. de Geus: Yes.

12  
13 Commissioner Reckdahl: Yeah, it is. That would be a big cleanup, I would assume. Do  
14 we get many requests for people coming in that want to pair with us, want to team with  
15 us to do this or are we out there beating the bushes, like you talked about the survey?  
16 How much of the action is on our side and how much of it is other people coming to us?

17  
18 Ms. Douglas: It's funny you should ask. I just got an email today from somebody  
19 emailing who wanted to kind of do a special event, something along the nature of a bike  
20 expo. I think, from my experience and I've only been here since January, it's almost an  
21 equal partnership. We'll go out and find out what the community wants, but they also  
22 won't hesitate to let us know if there's something else that they're looking for. That's been  
23 my experience. I don't know, Rob, if you have ...

24  
25 Mr. de Geus: That's accurate. Chinese New Year is another one that comes to mind. I  
26 don't know if it's on our list here. A local organization does a great event and have asked  
27 for support for the last 2 years. We've provided free facilities and some staff support. I  
28 think we'll probably partner even more in the future with that organization.

29  
30 Commissioner Reckdahl: Thank you.

31  
32 Chair Lauing: Commissioner Cribbs.

33  
34 Commissioner Cribbs: I think it's a great list as well. Congratulations. I was interested  
35 in three things. Our relationship with Stanford and the possibility of doing events with  
36 Stanford, either at their campus or on our facilities. The volunteer group that you have, is  
37 there a network? Are there volunteers that come with each event or are there some  
38 volunteers that do everything? The third thing that follows that is the service clubs and  
39 how well we work with them, because they're great.

40  
41 Ms. Douglas: For Stanford, that's actually—when I first came on board, I know we had  
42 talked about doing an Olympics Day. We had met with Stanford. Unfortunately, just due

1 to scheduling, it wasn't going to work out. That's a relationship that's been created now.  
2 We are trying to follow up and see if there's other opportunities for partnership. I think  
3 they have a lot to offer, being right here in our backyard. They can certainly provide  
4 some expertise in things that we might not have the expertise in. That's a relationship  
5 that's there, and it's just a matter of finding that partnership that's going to work based on  
6 schedules and locations. The second question about volunteers. We typically pull from  
7 our teens for volunteers, but we also do have—when we have an event, we will put the  
8 call out for volunteers. That may be from community groups, like you said Rotary,  
9 Kiwanis, Lions Club, those types of service groups, if we need them. Then, we'll have  
10 people, if they know May Fete is coming up, will raise their hand and come to us and say  
11 they want to be involved. We'll put them somewhere and definitely have them be a  
12 participating part of it.

13  
14 Mr. de Geus: Just to add to that, Stephanie. Our sort of main partner is the Palo Alto  
15 Recreation Foundation. They support lots of recreation programs, but their focus is  
16 mostly events. They love events and supporting events. In fact, interestingly, that's how  
17 World Music Day really got started. It was Claude Ezran, a community member, who  
18 wanted to see this event happen in Palo Alto, and needed help and support and was  
19 coming to the City. We introduced him to the Palo Alto Recreation Foundation, and then  
20 he became a Board Member. Now, he's still on the Board. The Foundation and the City  
21 together make that event happen, and he's still very close to it. There's a couple of other  
22 events that are like that, where we've led them to the Recreation Foundation. They've  
23 joined the Board and got their event to happen that way.

24  
25 Commissioner Cribbs: Are you thinking the Black and White Ball might come back?  
26

27 Mr. de Geus: It might. Stephanie probably knows more about that than me. The Black  
28 and White Ball, they talk about it a lot, the Foundation, but we haven't seen much action  
29 yet.  
30

31 Ms. Douglas: My understanding is the Black and White Ball will be happening this year.  
32 September 30th is the date they're looking at. We have a meeting tomorrow actually to  
33 kind of nail down some more of the details and logistics. From my understanding, it'll be  
34 at Mitchell Community Center on September 30th.  
35

36 Commissioner Cribbs: That's good to hear.  
37

38 Chair Lauing: Commissioner Moss.  
39

40 Commissioner Moss: This is a really great list. It gets my creative juices flowing, and  
41 I'm sure a lot of people as well. Of course, with our Master Plan, there is a number of  
42 places where we want to encourage community events. I was wondering how this differs



1 from, say, the music events in the park on the summer evenings and some of the bike  
2 events that we've had, tours of Palo Alto and other events. Are they separate or would  
3 you consider them altogether in one big list?  
4

5 Mr. de Geus: Most of the events Community Services is involved in—I would say  
6 almost all of them—it depends on the level of involvement. These ones here, as  
7 Stephanie said, we're mostly in the lead on. There are other events that come out of the  
8 City Manager's Office or come from Council or the Mayor's interest or from another  
9 department like Planning and Transportation, in which case we will provide some  
10 supportive role. They often come to Community Services for help if another department  
11 wants to put on an event.  
12

13 Commissioner Moss: The reason I ask is if you put all of those events on one big  
14 calendar, you would have maybe three or four times as many events. Even these things  
15 where they have the pet adoption event at some of the places there, there are so many  
16 events that are happening. There's also a dog show that happens at Cubberley field once  
17 or twice a year. Things that the community ought to know about. I'm sure that these  
18 events would love the publicity. My only suggestion would be a community calendar  
19 that includes not only these but also some of the smaller ones. I'm sure there's one of  
20 these a week somewhere.  
21

22 Chair Lauing: Thanks. I had just one question that wasn't already mentioned, and that's  
23 staffing. Every time you do something new, it's either more work to do or you decide this  
24 one has to get trimmed down, because it's not unlimited. How do you manage that and  
25 make those kinds of decisions? We're always sensitive to the workload of the staff.  
26

27 Ms. Douglas: One of the things, I must say, being new here to Palo Alto, I'm just blown  
28 away by how dedicated our staff are. When we have a big event—right now what we've  
29 been doing is kind of a divide-and-conquer approach, where each staff member has  
30 certain areas that they focus on. We are also looking at possibly getting some part-time  
31 assistance to help with the logistics with some of our bigger events. For the most part,  
32 we have staff that kind of take on certain parts of it and can still manage that with their  
33 current duties. It's been working so far. That is something we have to take into  
34 consideration. As more and more events come our way, how would we manage that?  
35 Right now, it's doable. As time goes on and more events come up, that's something we'll  
36 have to look at.  
37

38 Chair Lauing: Yeah, it's not unlimited. Rob.  
39

40 Mr. de Geus: First of all, I think Stephanie's doing a fantastic job in adding events and  
41 being really creative and thinking out of the box. Just as a reminder, we actually  
42 eliminated the position that she's in, the Superintendent of Recreation position, in 2008,



1 '09, in that period of time. The Council agreed to bring the position back partly because  
2 of interest in special events and building that program. We needed more leadership at  
3 this level for the recreation team to be able to do that. Stephanie's the first person to be in  
4 that position since it's been back. I think that's been extremely helpful to be able to  
5 manage these events as you can see.

6  
7 Chair Lauing: Thanks very much for your efforts so far. We'll keep watching the list.  
8 Thank you.

9  
10 **3. Healthy City Healthy Community Resolution and Current Initiatives.**

11  
12 Chair Lauing: The next item on the agenda is Healthy City Healthy Community  
13 Resolution and current initiatives.

14  
15 Ms. O'Kane: Kristen O'Kane, Community Services. Rob and I were discussing possible  
16 agenda items for this meeting. We thought now would be a good time to give an update  
17 on the Healthy City Healthy Community Resolution that was adopted by Council last  
18 December and just provide an update on the progress that the group has made so far and a  
19 little bit of background on the Resolution. The Healthy City Healthy Community  
20 stakeholder group was created because in 2015 Council adopted Healthy City Healthy  
21 Community as one of their priorities for the year and also again in 2016. A stakeholder  
22 group was formed to draft a Resolution but then also implement the Resolution. I just  
23 included a handful of the stakeholders here. There's different levels of interest and  
24 involvement. We do meet monthly. This is only a handful. There's been a lot of other  
25 stakeholders that have been involved, especially nonprofits like YCS, Canopy, Palo Alto  
26 Forward. Depending on what we're talking about, people tend to come when something  
27 is of interest to them. The Resolution was adopted in December 2015, and the purpose of  
28 the Resolution was to adopt healthy social, cultural and physical environments that  
29 promote and support well-being and creative expression for ourselves, our families and  
30 our community in support of a healthy city, healthy community. I did want to mention as  
31 well that the Healthy Cities is initiated by the League of California Cities. That's how we  
32 modeled our Resolution, using some focus areas that the League of California Cities  
33 recommended. They included healthy environment, healthy food access and healthy  
34 workplace. Those are also focus areas that the City of Palo Alto has honed in on. We  
35 also added healthy culture which was in response to stakeholder feedback, that healthy  
36 culture would be an appropriate addition for Palo Alto. What is healthy culture? Healthy  
37 culture is really the non-physical parts of health and well-being. It's social, emotional  
38 and mental well-being, encourages inclusiveness, kindness and just builds social  
39 connections. In the Resolution under each of these focus areas, it also includes some  
40 specific tasks that are not necessarily directives but aspirational. What should the City  
41 and the community be striving for? I've included an example on the bottom of this slide,  
42 support and improve the lives of people with different abilities, children and seniors. I

1 especially love this photo. There's just something about it that every time I look at it, it  
2 makes me smile. This was from the May Fete Parade last year. A professional  
3 photographer took it. I love it. Healthy environment was the next one. This is about  
4 increasing opportunities more for physical wellness, walking, biking and other physical  
5 activity, but then also increasing connections between residents and nature. One of the  
6 tasks is to enhance walking and biking connectivity between neighborhoods and schools,  
7 parks, recreational resources and retail. The third one was healthy food access. This is to  
8 collaborate within the community to provide healthy and affordable food options for  
9 everyone. One of the actions there is to promote community participation in community  
10 gardens and farmers markets, to increase access to healthy foods. When I picked these  
11 tasks, I tried to pick ones that were really relevant, especially to the Master Planning  
12 effort. If you're looking at these, you can pick out those common words that we're all  
13 really used to because they're in the Master Plan. The final one is healthy workplace.  
14 This promotes work/life balance and educates employees on healthy living and just  
15 supports overall health and wellness for employees. The specific task I pulled from this  
16 one is establish Palo Alto as a leading example of open government dedicated to the  
17 health and well-being of the public. Within the Resolution, there were seven initiatives  
18 that were identified for implementation in fiscal years 2016 and 2017. Three of them,  
19 which are actually Numbers 2, 3 and 4 on the slide, are very City-specific. They're  
20 focused on City employees, advancing the Bike Pedestrian Plan projects and also  
21 including Healthy City Healthy Community in the Comp Plan. When I say City-specific,  
22 I mean tasks that City staff would be doing. The others are really community-based, and  
23 that's what our stakeholder group has been working on. The first one is to create a  
24 welcome packet for new residents that focuses really on what are health and wellness  
25 opportunities in Palo Alto. This would be for new residents but also for visitors and  
26 people who come here every day to work. It'd be very nice to have a place where you  
27 could go and just see all the opportunities out there. The fifth is to establish a forum for  
28 local businesses in partnership with the business community. The Chamber of  
29 Commerce has really been working with us on this one and also our own HR Department.  
30 We do have a pretty robust wellness program within the City of Palo Alto. This is a way  
31 to collaborate and share ideas so that people are equally being provided wellness  
32 opportunities. The sixth initiative is to coordinate and have an annual health fair, which  
33 we just completed the second one. We had one last year as well. This year it was in  
34 September, and it was very successful. That was in partnership with the YMCA. We  
35 plan to continue doing those in the future. The seventh one which is, I think, one of the  
36 most difficult ones is establishing metrics. How do you know when Palo Alto is a  
37 healthy city and a healthy community? I know Rob has been involved in that initiative  
38 and working on that one. We're also tying in with some other groups to find out what  
39 they're doing to measure health and wellness within their communities. The eighth one  
40 has been added since the Resolution was adopted. This is to develop actions to enroll  
41 Palo Alto as an age-friendly community. This is an AARP designation. They're an  
42 affiliate of the World Health Organization, who has a worldwide age-friendly community



1 program. This is something that we're working on with Santa Clara County and  
2 Avenidas as well. The idea is that we would be designated as an age-friendly  
3 community. I read an interesting statistic today that one in three Americans is 50 years of  
4 age or older. By 2030 one out of every five people in the U.S. will be 65 or older. As the  
5 population ages and people are staying healthy longer, communities really need to adapt  
6 to that and make their communities accessible and enjoyable for people of all ages. That  
7 is all I have on this Resolution. I wanted to share this picture. I put this in here because  
8 this is healthy workplace. This just happened last week. This is a Community Services  
9 Department work day. We didn't spend the whole day; we spent about an hour and a half  
10 out in the Baylands planting native plants and removing some invasive species. It was  
11 really fun. It's mental wellness; it's good collaboration with your colleagues; also you get  
12 a little bit of physical activity in there. I just wanted to share this. I thought it would be a  
13 fun photo.

14  
15 Mr. de Geus; Who's that cool guy in the hat there? Who is he?

16  
17 Ms. O'Kane: I don't know. He just walked in the picture. Any questions on this?

18  
19 Chair Lauing: First, I just want to know if you got rid of all those invasive plants in an  
20 hour and a half? That's a lot with that much man and woman power there.

21  
22 Ms. O'Kane: We didn't get rid of all them, but we estimated that we in an hour and a half  
23 completed the work that would normally take 4 days to do. It was quite an  
24 accomplishment.

25  
26 Chair Lauing: When are you going back?

27  
28 Ms. O'Kane: We're planning to do more activities like this throughout the City, not just  
29 in the Baylands but anywhere that we could use a little extra hand to get some work done.

30  
31 Chair Lauing: Private yards?

32  
33 Ms. O'Kane: Maybe not. I don't think so.

34  
35 Chair Lauing: Maybe next time. You had some comments.

36  
37 Commissioner Cribbs: I do have a comment. One of the stakeholders is the Palo Alto  
38 School District. As I was looking through this, I didn't see anything specifically about  
39 the School District, but I know there's lots of programs going on that are back and forth  
40 about wellness and health in the School District specifically. I didn't know how that was  
41 being handled or if not.

1 Ms. O'Kane: My understanding is that when the stakeholder group was originally put  
2 together, their goal was to put the Resolution together and then also develop the  
3 initiatives. I think a lot of the original stakeholders, when we don't have initiatives  
4 specific to them, are not as involved anymore. As we move forward and develop new  
5 initiatives in the future, I'm hoping we can address some of those areas that weren't  
6 addressed in these 2 years.

7  
8 Cubberley: It just struck me as I was looking at the workplace and the community that I  
9 didn't see specific about schools. That was one thing. The Palo Alto Medical  
10 Foundation, are they considered to be a stakeholder or not?

11  
12 Ms. O'Kane: They are. We did have a physician from PAMF come and give a  
13 presentation related to the health forum, the workplace forum. He came and talked to us.  
14 They are considered a stakeholder. I think part of it is just people's availability.

15  
16 Commissioner Cribbs: I think this is a wonderful report. Thank you very much.

17  
18 Mr. de Geus: We meet monthly, and there's a meeting this Thursday, if any of the  
19 Commissioners are interested in attending. I know we had a Commissioner  
20 representative attend last year pretty regularly. We provide a healthy lunch.

21  
22 Chair Lauing: Provide what?

23  
24 Mr. de Geus: We provide a healthy lunch. The meeting is here at noon in the  
25 Community Room.

26  
27 Commissioner Cribbs: Where is the meeting, here?

28  
29 Mr. de Geus: It's right here at City Hall in the community room out front, there at the  
30 lobby. Everyone's welcome.

31  
32 Ms. O'Kane: I'll send the meeting invitation to everybody, and maybe someone can  
33 attend. That would be very nice and helpful.

34  
35 Chair Lauing: Commissioner Moss.

36  
37 Commissioner Moss: Going back to the presentation we just had, it seemed like almost  
38 all of those events have some tie-in to Healthy City Healthy Community plus all the other  
39 ones that ought to be on that community calendar, that I mentioned before. Almost all of  
40 them have some tie-in to Healthy City Healthy Community. There should be an "HC"  
41 next to each one those, indicating which ones tie to this and maybe even how they tie.  
42 You have tremendous potential to tie almost everything we do in the community to this.

1 It's not like we have to start from scratch and come up with something new. We're  
2 already doing it. We just need to toot our own horn and point to the things we do. It's  
3 just fantastic.

4  
5 Chair Lauing: Thank you. We do actually have a late speaker card here. I'd like to  
6 recognize Shani Kleinhaus to speak on this item.

7  
8 Shani Kleinhaus: Thank you. My name is Shani Kleinhaus. I'm a resident, and I am on  
9 the CAC, but I do not speak for the CAC. One thing that I think is relevant to this as well  
10 as to the next item, so I thought I'll say it now. I think we need a shuttle system to bring  
11 people to Foothill Park and potentially to the Baylands. There is a lot of discussion in the  
12 Comprehensive Plan Update about how people are not going to drive anymore. There's  
13 also a lot of senior people who need access and others, maybe youth. Somewhere in  
14 there it would be great to add a shuttle system to bring people to parks, that are not only  
15 in the City. One other thing specifically about this Healthy City is most of what was  
16 mentioned is already in the Comprehensive Plan Update, I think. One thing that was  
17 different is this employee health and wellness and collaborating with local employers. I  
18 want our workers to be healthy, but there was a lot of comment when this previously  
19 came up from people who did not think that this should be there at all. It was in various  
20 times that this was expressed. I'm not sure how I stand about it, but I thought I should  
21 bring it to your attention, that this was not something people felt the City has a place in at  
22 all. That's all for this one. Thank you.

23  
24 Chair Lauing: Thank you, and for the report.

25  
26 **4. Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreation Facilities Master Plan.**

27  
28 Chair Lauing: The next item on the agenda looks familiar, the Parks, Open Space, Trails  
29 and Recreation Facilities Master Plan. Staff will review what we got in our packet. We  
30 do have some speaker cards for this, so we can take these first. First of all is Jonathan  
31 Brown. You have 3 minutes. Thank you.

32  
33 Jonathan Brown: Thank you. My name is Jonathan Brown. I'm a member of the  
34 Ventura neighborhood; I live on Fernando Avenue. The Ventura Neighborhood  
35 Association, I should say. I'm chair of the Ventura parks committee. Thank you for your  
36 work so far on the Parks Master Plan and the opportunity to help you move it forward. I  
37 would like to propose that we add a project to Group 1, acquire the parcel at 3350 Birch  
38 Street for future expansion of Boulware Park. Currently, one of the Group 2 projects is  
39 acquire new parkland in high-need areas. At least the Boulware Park acquisition part of  
40 this item should be moved higher in the priority. I looked through all the proposed site  
41 concept plans in the City's draft park and facilities new amenities concept plans review  
42 document from May 23, 2016. Of all those 35 proposed site concept plans, Boulware



1 Park was the only one to identify an opportunity to expand the park to adjacent land.  
2 Boulware Park was also the only one to note that the park serves a large neighborhood  
3 with limited parkland. 3350 Birch is zoned public facility, a designation reserved for  
4 community service or recreational facilities among a few others. Expanding the park  
5 would help address the current lack of size of Boulware Park relative to the large  
6 neighborhood it serves, and it would fulfill the City's stated objective to add parkland on  
7 a corner lot. This land is owned by AT&T at a time when telecoms are looking to  
8 downsize. In fact, AT&T has indicated that it is willing to sell this very parcel. Peter  
9 Jensen in Public Works is actively working on this issue. There is no need for this  
10 acquisition to be lumped into the more long-term aspirations described in Group 2;  
11 although, those also are laudable. There are a lot of tie-ins to other City goals and  
12 initiatives, such as the Healthy Cities one that we just heard about. The Ventura  
13 Neighborhood and other organizations and citizens stand ready to act whether in the form  
14 of a public/private partnership or otherwise to realize this goal. Thank you.

15  
16 Chair Lauing: Thank you very much. The next speaker is Becky Sanders.

17  
18 Becky Sanders: Thank you, Commissioners, for your service to our fair City. Thank  
19 you, Rob and the Recreation Department, for working as hard and as diligently as you do  
20 on our behalf. This is a City that has a lot of demanding, competing interests. We all  
21 know that. I'm just here to add my voice to that of Jonathan Brown, the chairman of the  
22 parks committee for the Ventura Neighborhood Association. We actually have an  
23 official parks platform that has been sent to Peter Jensen. I believe that Boulware  
24 actually is at the bottom of the list. I think it gets an F as a rating for a park in the City of  
25 Palo Alto. We are underserved by parks in Ventura. We would love to have a bathroom  
26 and all kinds of other improvements that are in our platform and were sent in March, I  
27 believe, or in the summer, I believe, to the Commission and to Mr. Jensen. I'm just here  
28 to add my voice to Jonathan's and say that that corner lot would be an amazing public  
29 garden, community garden. Right now it's an eyesore. There is still a homeless issue in  
30 that area; although, a lot has been done to address that. People still seem to think that that  
31 park, which serves toddlers and families—some people think that it's still okay for  
32 homeless people to use that for all of their personal needs. That's a problem. I don't  
33 know if it's possible, but if we were to get that park, might it be possible to have an  
34 emergency vehicle only drive through from Fernando to Ash to Lambert? That would  
35 make it an even more safe and wonderful experience for all of us in Ventura. Thank you  
36 very much for your attention. I appreciate it.

37  
38 Chair Lauing: Thank you. The last speaker on this item is Shani Kleinhaus.

39  
40 Shani Kleinhaus: Thank you. Shani Kleinhaus again, a resident and a member of the  
41 CAC. I do not for speak the CAC. One of the things that came up at the Citizen  
42 Advisory Committee was for acquisition to look into legacy programs and bequests and

1 see if people are willing to donate their home for a park dedication. I didn't see it there.  
2 It may be. Just to have consistency with the CAC, it would be good to add it here as  
3 well. It looks a lot better than last time. Thank you. You've put a lot of work into that,  
4 staff and the Commissioners. Again, the shuttle to parks. For signage, I think there is  
5 one place where there is a reference to the Rinconada signage as a model, but there's no  
6 picture of what that might look like. You might want to add a picture. There's discussion  
7 of signage—there are programs to add signage that adds the distance to the next park and  
8 languages and so on. I think people these days use their cell phones, and they don't need  
9 additional signage. It kind of litters if you have too much. I'm not sure that's needed. I  
10 would actually take out those extras. Being from a different country and speaking with  
11 an accent—English is not my native language—I still don't necessarily need the signage  
12 in my own mother language. Upgrading of open space trails to be ADA compatible can  
13 be done very minorly. You've got to be very, very careful when you put paved trails in  
14 parks. Often little critters are attracted to the warmer than the general environment.  
15 They'll sit there and bask, and the bicycles will run them over. You really need to be  
16 careful. I'm not sure we need a lot of that. You could do maybe one, so there is a way  
17 for people who cannot use dirt rails to get around. I think Byxbee already has a lot of  
18 trails that are accessible. I would be really careful about doing more of those. The same  
19 with art in open space areas in the preserves. You have to be careful with that. There is  
20 already art that is now going to be luckily removed. Some of that was providing perches  
21 for raptors in an area that they could prey on endangered species. You have to be very  
22 careful. Really, the focus in open space and natural areas should be nature. The last one  
23 I have here is on lighting. Lighting, especially with LED, is a big problem for wildlife  
24 both in the urban and suburban and in nature. I will provide the staff with a recent article  
25 about the types of light that can be used and what is not so good to use. That might help  
26 design lighting in a better way that's not too invasive. Thank you.

27  
28 Chair Lauing: Thank you. That's the last speaker. Kristen, do you want to give us an  
29 overview of what we're going to discuss tonight?

30  
31 Ms. O'Kane: Sure. Kristen O'Kane, Community Services. I'm here with Peter Jensen  
32 and Daren Anderson to discuss the Parks Master Plan latest updates. We're going to be  
33 discussing Chapter 4 revisions. I know we all thought Chapter 4 was pretty much done,  
34 but we did add a few programs in response to Council comments and feedback. We  
35 wanted to share those with all of you tonight. Also, sort of the bigger topic is Chapter 5,  
36 which has been developed quite a bit since the last Commission meeting. We've added  
37 descriptions for all the project and programs and filled in some of the blanks where we  
38 had sort of still under development included. Peter's going to be talking about the next  
39 steps and schedule to get us to the finish line. The first two programs that we added are  
40 under Goal 5 and specifically under Policy 5B, which is support innovation in recreation  
41 programming and park features and amenities. We heard from most Council Members  
42 the desire to have more intramural sports as well as opportunities for pickup games and

1 non-league games. We added these two programs under this policy to reflect that. The  
2 next was under Policy 5C, which is related to expanding the overall parks and rec system  
3 through creative means. We've added 5C.1, which is explore a process to utilize and  
4 reserve select public and private lands for park-like functions that allows for more  
5 flexibility than formal park dedication. This addresses the desire to have something less  
6 limiting than a parkland dedication. For example, if you were going to dedicate parkland  
7 on a rooftop, that would come with a lot of limitations for that property. This would  
8 provide something that has more flexibility but would still provide the park-like  
9 functions. Even if it is temporary, it would still be there. That was the intent of this  
10 program. Do you want to stop here, Chair, and discuss any of these?

11  
12 Chair Lauing: These are the total new ones, right?

13  
14 Ms. O'Kane: Yes, there's three total.

15  
16 Chair Lauing: Any comments on those? Commissioner Reckdahl, go ahead.

17  
18 Commissioner Reckdahl: Just with this last one, I understand once you make a park a  
19 park, it stays a park until action is taken. This would just be a park-like area. How would  
20 it become not a park-like area? What would be the decommissioning process for this?

21  
22 Ms. O'Kane: We still would have to work all those details out, unless you have any  
23 thoughts, Rob, on how that would be handled. This is just the idea. We would have to  
24 figure out how this would actually be implemented and, like you said, decommissioned.

25  
26 Commissioner Reckdahl: Is there any use constraints that currently a park can't do, that  
27 people want these park-like areas to do?

28  
29 Mr. de Geus: Not necessarily. This came up during the Council discussion on taking a  
30 look at public land that is currently being used for park and recreation functions but is not  
31 dedicated parkland and moving to dedicate those parcels. The discussion came up that  
32 there may be instances where we do want to use the land for park and recreation  
33 purposes, but we don't want to dedicate it as parkland because it could be limiting in  
34 some way for that property. As the example was given here, if it was on a rooftop or  
35 something, you wouldn't want to dedicate it as parkland. Is there another type of  
36 dedication that is not quite as limiting as dedicated parkland, which requires a vote of the  
37 people and all of those things and is pretty restrictive in terms of what you can use? It's  
38 really to explore is there another designation.

39  
40 Commissioner Reckdahl: I think it makes sense. I was just poking at what was the  
41 features of parkland that people are objecting to. Was it the permanency or was it some  
42 use of the parkland that's limited?



1  
2 Ms. O'Kane: I think it's the permanency.

3  
4 Commissioner Reckdahl: Thank you.

5  
6 Chair Lauing: Any other comments on this? Anne.

7  
8 Commissioner Cribbs: Just a question about intramural sports as opposed to intermural  
9 sports. I just didn't understand the definition.

10  
11 Ms. O'Kane: It could be that I misspelled it.

12  
13 Commissioner Cribbs: No, I don't think so. I was thinking maybe you meant something  
14 different, whether the "intra" was just within the school opportunities and "inter" was  
15 between schools. I just was confused about what that was.

16  
17 Ms. O'Kane: I think the "intra" means within the school.

18  
19 Commissioner Cribbs: Within the school.

20  
21 Ms. O'Kane: I can look into that and make sure I have the right one or maybe we include  
22 both. I'm not sure.

23  
24 Commissioner Cribbs: What would I prefer? I just think it's great to have kids have  
25 opportunities to play in a not too serious manner. If that is better just within the school,  
26 that's fine. It could be schools against each other too. I just wanted to ask the question.

27  
28 Chair Lauing: David, did you have a comment? Put on the mike.

29  
30 Commissioner Moss: I don't have a comment about Chapter 4. Everything's fine. In one  
31 of the previous chapters, there's a typo that's pretty glaring, that I was hoping you would  
32 correct. That's on page 11. It says that there are three elements. You really don't say  
33 what those three elements are. It's on page 11 at the bottom of—the front page and the  
34 top of page 11 talks about the three elements. I think the three elements are parks, trails,  
35 natural open spaces and then recreational facilities and then recreational programs. When  
36 you go over there, they're all the same size font. You really can't tell. If you could just  
37 list the three elements in that first paragraph like you did later on with the other ones, on  
38 the top of page 16, just make recreational facilities a little bigger and bolder. On page 19,  
39 recreational programs, make it a little bigger and bolder than the rest. I think that would  
40 make it flow a lot better. That's all I had.

41  
42 Chair Lauing: Should we move to Chapter 5?

1  
2 Commissioner Hetterly: I had a couple ...

3  
4 Chair Lauing: Sorry.

5  
6 Commissioner Hetterly: ... for the other chapters.

7  
8 Chair Lauing: For four?

9  
10 Commissioner Hetterly: For one through four. They're not big. Page 27, actually  
11 throughout the demographics section, it would be great if we could add some more charts  
12 or pictures. I know there was some work being done on that; I don't know if it's  
13 completed or not. In particular, I'd like to see a chart showing the growth trend for kids.  
14 Page 54 has the parkland acreage policy. It refers to the National Recreation and Park  
15 Association standard and then refers you to the sidebar. The sidebar really just talks  
16 about the 4 acres per 1,000. I would like to see the language of the NRPA standard in  
17 there as well, because it does have some context that fits in with our new policy. Page  
18 C14 is the map of the watershed for dog parks. I think it just needs to be corrected,  
19 because it looks as though the dog parks are in Mitchell Park and Rinconada, but it  
20 doesn't show one in Hoover. We don't have one in Rinconada. It doesn't show one at  
21 Greer. Perhaps I misunderstood what this map was representing. Please double check it  
22 and make sure it has the right locations. That's all I had before Chapter 5.

23  
24 Chair Lauing: Keith.

25  
26 Commissioner Reckdahl: I have two comments here. Page 12, we talk about due to the  
27 era in which they were built, many parks don't have flexible spaces. I think that term,  
28 flexible spaces, needs some definition. When I think of grass, open areas, that's quite  
29 flexible. You can do a lot of things there. I'm not sure what we're getting at with that  
30 flexible spaces, whether it's courts that can be used for multiple sports or what. That  
31 flexible spaces, more detail has to be added to that. The other thing was also on the same  
32 page. The very last paragraph talks about the figure depicts all City-owned park sites. It  
33 also shows the City-leased. Maybe we should say City-owned and City-leased or have  
34 some general term, City-controlled or something like that, that includes both Stanford and  
35 El Camino Park, which are not owned by the City. The second one was on page 28. On  
36 page 28, we talk about our special needs. It says our community is also home to an  
37 unusually high number of special needs students. I think more detail is needed on that.  
38 Is there a reason for that or is that just a fluke? If there's a reason, then we expect it could  
39 be sustaining, and we should plan more. If it's just a fluke that 10 years from now will  
40 possibly go away, that would reduce our commitment to adding features in parks and also  
41 programs for special need students. That's it. Thank you. Do we know why there's so  
42 many special needs students? Is it a Bay Area thing or is it Palo Alto compared to

1 Redwood City? When we say unusually high, what are we comparing it to? Do we  
2 know?

3  
4 Commissioner Hetterly: As I recall, the demographic report that MIG did highlighted  
5 that. They were saying that it was due to the attraction of the school system. Since our  
6 school system provides such excellent services for the special needs population, they're a  
7 draw.

8  
9 Commissioner Reckdahl: (crosstalk). That would ...

10  
11 Commissioner Hetterly: I don't recall that there was any hard and fast data establishing  
12 that, but that was their ...

13  
14 Commissioner Reckdahl: We're speculating that's (crosstalk).

15  
16 Commissioner Hetterly: ... presumption.

17  
18 Commissioner Reckdahl: If that's the case, then that probably would be sustaining,  
19 which means we would want to make a special effort. Thank you.

20  
21 Chair Lauing: Did you want to give an overview presentation on Chapter 5 or just go to  
22 comments?

23  
24 Ms. O'Kane: I have a few slides. Chapter 5 is implementation. Last time, we came with  
25 our list of 15 priority projects and 15 priority programs that we felt we had general  
26 agreement on from the community and the PRC. These were things that could be  
27 addressed in the very near term, whether that be completed in the nearer term or start the  
28 planning process in the nearer term. The feedback we got from the Commission was to  
29 add the 7.7-acre piece of land at Foothills Park, which we did. In meeting with the ad  
30 hoc group, we chose to add enhance existing playing fields as well. Now, there are those  
31 two additional projects. We've also grouped them by short-term versus long-term, those  
32 that need further study, will take a long time to plan or fund, and also urgency. We've  
33 added descriptions of each priority project and program including the level of planning  
34 effort, capital cost, operation cost, timeframe and urgency. I've included the definitions  
35 here. The planning effort is really how much time does it take to plan it. That includes  
36 your community outreach, your environmental review, identifying the funding and also  
37 PRC and Council approval. We've given those a rating of low, medium, high. There isn't  
38 any certain amount of time or dollar amount connected to low, medium, high. It's just a  
39 very general label. Capital costs, we did get more specific. This is the order of  
40 magnitude capital costs to implement the project. We included annual operating costs.  
41 Once the project is completed, how much will it cost to keep it going? Timeframe,  
42 whether it occurs in the near, mid or long-term. The final one is urgency, which indicates

1 the level of need. It's important to point out that all projects included in the Master Plan  
2 have a demonstrated need. Otherwise, they wouldn't be in there. The level of urgency  
3 does vary, and this is dependent on the availability of a particular program or a particular  
4 amenity based on the demand that there is. We give this a rating of low, medium, and  
5 high as well. One thing I wanted to touch on—Rob and I have talked about this quite a  
6 bit; we've gone back and forth on it. Is urgency an appropriate category to be including,  
7 given that these projects are all considered high priority? If something is rated low on the  
8 urgency, what does that mean? If it is low, then maybe it shouldn't be on the list. We  
9 wanted to just hear the Commission's thoughts on this and get some feedback from you. I  
10 don't think we're recommending either. We just want to be able to better understand it  
11 and better explain it to others. Any comments?

12  
13 Chair Lauing: I think we could just have comments on that, the urgency question, before  
14 we go into it. Is that okay?

15  
16 Ms. O'Kane: I'm sorry.

17  
18 Chair Lauing: Just to speak about this urgency question first, before we go into it.

19  
20 Ms. O'Kane: Please, that would be ...

21  
22 Chair Lauing: Does anyone want to start? I can. Commissioner Moss.

23  
24 Commissioner Moss: I definitely think you should have the urgency on there. Even if  
25 it's low, if there are some spots that we could stick it into, especially if it's not high cost,  
26 we could just do it in between the higher priority ones, especially the bigger, more  
27 expensive ones. If these are less expensive, even if they're low, we could squeeze them  
28 in. It's good to have them on the list, I think.

29  
30 Chair Lauing: The first thing that comes to my mind on urgency is if there's a safety  
31 issue. Obviously, even though that would be a high priority and dog parks would be a  
32 high priority maybe if there wasn't a safety issue, then you could get balance that way. I  
33 think there are instances, but it may be an ad hoc decision rather than fighting over it in  
34 terms of high priority versus urgency. Other comments? Commissioner Hetterly.

35  
36 Commissioner Hetterly: I do think it's important to have an urgency element to it. When  
37 I think about it, it's more in the sense of a time sensitivity. For example, the  
38 Comprehensive Conservation Plans are important. All these things are important, but  
39 those are one of the things that we want to do at the front end because they're going to  
40 guide our decision-making around every other thing that we do. There is an urgency to  
41 do that first. We don't want to wait until 15 years out to finish the last Conservation Plan.  
42 I think there are several items that are like that. We had a speaker earlier talking about

1 the AT&T property site. Hopefully that's something that could be resolved before this  
2 Master Plan is put into action. If not, that seems to me something that we might want to  
3 include as in fact a Group 1 project or at least an urgent Group 2 project that would get  
4 immediate attention. If we fail to act, then we lose that opportunity. It's gone forever.  
5 There's a lot of time sensitive items in here that really do need to be acted on  
6 immediately. I think maintenance is another one of those, where we want to have a  
7 sustainable maintenance strategy that's going to guide our maintenance for the next 20  
8 years and every single project that we pursue. That, I think, does merit a special standing  
9 in the evaluation.

10  
11 Commissioner Reckdahl: I would concur. To me, it's important. There's high needs that  
12 if they go unmet, there's not a big impact. There's other high needs, for example buying  
13 property or there was one in here about ADA. If you have disabled kids who can't use a  
14 playground right now, I'd consider that time urgency because they're going to lose their  
15 childhood by the time they retrofit that park. It's what's the ramification if this high need  
16 is not met. Some high needs can be prolonged. If you look at the catch-up and keep-up  
17 list from the Blue Ribbon Committee, a lot of those were high, but they've just drifted  
18 along, and we've gotten by without them. Other times, it's more time critical.

19  
20 Chair Lauing: Let's just talk about Chapter 5. I had a couple of structural questions.  
21 Were there any adds or deletions to the glossary this time around?

22  
23 Ms. O'Kane: I don't believe so.

24  
25 Chair Lauing: I noticed that all the appendices are up front, at least the way this has been  
26 collated. Is that intentional? All these charts and maps and everything are before we get  
27 to the text.

28  
29 Ms. O'Kane: They should be at the end. I actually had a question for all of you on the  
30 appendices.

31  
32 Chair Lauing: I'm sorry?

33  
34 Ms. O'Kane: They should be all at the end, the appendices. Actually that was timely  
35 because my next slide is about those. I had a discussion question related to that as well.

36  
37 Chair Lauing: It's collated before the Attachment B in the packet.

38  
39 Ms. O'Kane: That's because one through four and those appendices were put in together  
40 as this is sort of a final draft or near final draft, where Chapter 5 we still consider an  
41 earlier draft. They were put in there separately. That's why.

1 Chair Lauing: I think we should probably just go through this Commissioner by  
2 Commissioner, page by page, unless there are other approaches. Did you want to do that  
3 now, the discussion question?  
4

5 Ms. O'Kane: Sure, that would be fine.  
6

7 Chair Lauing: Fine. Sorry.  
8

9 Ms. O'Kane: The appendices that are included right now, there are five of them which  
10 are on the presentation. The question is are these the right appendices. Should there be  
11 additional ones? What other information—because we have a lot of information, a lot of  
12 data, what's missing from this list, if anything, that we should add?  
13

14 Chair Lauing: Commissioner Moss.  
15

16 Commissioner Moss: Thank you very much for putting all this stuff in the appendices. It  
17 makes the flow of Chapters 1-4 much easier to follow. As far as the order, I think the  
18 ones that—the geographic analysis and the park and rec inventory are the easiest for  
19 people to understand. Having those up front is good. Of course, the community  
20 engagement process probably could be lower down, because you're really just saying how  
21 you came up with this whole community response. It's sort of the process. Maybe if you  
22 wanted to switch geographic analysis and community engagement, just the order of the  
23 appendices, that might be better.  
24

25 Chair Lauing: Other comments?  
26

27 Commissioner Reckdahl: One comment on Appendix A. Are these going to be fold-outs  
28 in the final? The same with some of the maps. I find it a little cumbersome to have the  
29 data divided on two pages, especially when the pages were on opposite sides of each  
30 other.  
31

32 Ms. O'Kane: Yes, we can make them fold-outs so they're easier to read.  
33

34 Commissioner Reckdahl: Was this just to make it easier to print out or were we doing a  
35 trade? Was there some disadvantage of fold-outs?  
36

37 Ms. O'Kane: It's just easier for this review, for printing all the packets.  
38

39 Commissioner Hetterly: I agree with Commissioner Moss about moving the geographic  
40 analysis up. I think those maps are really helpful and informative and help get to the  
41 substance of the Plan. Not that community engagement is not a big part of the Plan. It's  
42 not as empirical. It looks like Appendix X that's related to Chapter 5 now is going with

1 the other appendices at the end. The program evaluation tool, I didn't see that appendix.  
2 Are you proposing to take that evaluating future projects section of Chapter 5 and make  
3 that an appendix? It's on page 23 of Chapter 5.  
4

5 Ms. O'Kane: Thank you. There's a form that MIG put together to go along with this, and  
6 that would be what's in the appendix. It would be almost like a flow chart of "if this,  
7 move to this; if not, stop your process." That's what the appendix would be.  
8

9 Commissioner Hetterly: That should be referred to probably in the text, so people know  
10 to go to that. As for other appendices that may be missing, I can't say off the top of my  
11 head that any come to me. I think the survey results were very useful information that  
12 people would find interesting. That's one I'd be inclined to include. Beyond that, I'd  
13 have to go look at the binder to see what other pieces we had and what might be an  
14 official supplement.  
15

16 Chair Lauing: If you pulled page 23, would this chapter just end on potential  
17 partnerships? The reason I ask is there seems to be a feel of closure if there's a way  
18 forward in future years with projects. At least some summary there, I think, would be  
19 helpful even if you're going to put more of this into the appendix. I'm saying you want a  
20 way forward to prioritize things in future years and decades. I think stating that in the  
21 body here, while you're talking about how you're going to implement it as something new  
22 comes up, you ought to at least have a summary here even if you're going to put this  
23 appendix in the back in terms of the scoring sheet and the quantitative aspects of that.  
24

25 Ms. O'Kane: I think the text would stay in the chapter, and then there would be a  
26 separate appendix referred to in the text.  
27

28 Chair Lauing: Where are we saying we should have the geographic analysis? Would  
29 that be "B," just swap "B" and "C"? That works for me. Is that what you're saying,  
30 David?  
31

32 Commissioner Moss: Yes.  
33

34 Chair Lauing: Keith? Do you want to start, Keith or Jennifer?  
35

36 Commissioner Reckdahl: We've talked about urgency. There were a couple in here  
37 that—this is on Chapter 5 obviously, page 5—where we talk about establish and grow  
38 partnerships. We call that urgency high. I'm not sure exactly why we would mark that  
39 high. It's important to do, but I don't ...  
40

41 Chair Lauing: Where are you?  
42

1 Commissioner Reckdahl: Page 5, on the very top, very first section, establish and grow  
2 partnerships. I think that's important to do, but I wouldn't do it urgency high. At least in  
3 my mind, the ramifications of not doing that is not as dire as some other things. When  
4 we have—the second one also is high. We seem to be a little inconsistent. Like on page  
5 6, we have the youth aquatics program as high, but expand programs for seniors is  
6 medium. I would think that would kind of be in the same boat. I think they probably all  
7 should be medium. It might be worthwhile just to go through offline and just review  
8 urgencies.

9  
10 Chair Lauing: Yeah. I'm questioning whether we should be going through it in  
11 subsections here as opposed to just go all the way through the pages. The first section is  
12 implementation and prioritization. We get comfortable with that before we go through all  
13 20 pages, each of us.

14  
15 Commissioner Reckdahl: That might be more orderly.

16  
17 Chair Lauing: Yeah, I think so. Is that okay?

18  
19 Commissioner Reckdahl: Yep.

20  
21 Chair Lauing: Do you want to keep the floor and look at pages, I guess, 1-3?

22  
23 Commissioner Reckdahl: I don't have anything on those (inaudible).

24  
25 Commissioner Hetterly: I struggled a little with the organization. I think it's because I  
26 keep stumbling on these timeframes. I was going to suggest that under prioritization  
27 process and action plan, you just change that heading to prioritization and have a little  
28 intro saying with limited staff time and resources we can't do everything at once. We  
29 developed a process to evaluate programs in the Plan based on current and anticipated  
30 needs and opportunities. The same process can be used throughout the life of the Plan as  
31 needs and resources change. After that little kind of general intro, then you put in this  
32 prioritization process. You've introduced it, and now you're telling them how it works,  
33 the criteria and evaluation. I would move up the evaluating future projects section to  
34 immediately after that process, because it's kind of a follow-on to what do we do with  
35 future things as they come up. They don't go exactly through the same thing, but we have  
36 to consider the control, the geography, all those other elements that aren't listed in these  
37 initial criteria. Then, go into the priority needs and opportunities. This is what we found  
38 through this planning process. These are the top 30 priorities. Followed by the action  
39 plan and then funding challenges and progress reporting together at the end. I throw that  
40 out as a suggestion. For the timeline, I felt like it lacked some context of why are you  
41 telling us about these near-term, mid-term, long-term things before we understand how  
42 the various projects might spread across the various timelines. I'd love to add some



1 language in here. I don't think it's policy-related, but it just gives a little context. I'm  
2 happy to share that with you offline, if you'd prefer that. It basically would just introduce  
3 that projects don't always start and end in a single timeframe. There are a lot of different  
4 kinds of projects. Some will extend across all of them; some are ongoing. Then, these  
5 timeframes as described here kind of give the structure for how each project will be  
6 integrated into the City planning process. I think it's useful to have this information; I  
7 just feel like there's a disconnect. That's all I have before we get to the priority section.  
8

9 Chair Lauing: I'll go that way and come back, and I'll go last again. Commissioner  
10 Moss.

11  
12 Commissioner Moss: I have a question about the process here. Are we presenting this to  
13 the City Council next month or do we have one more month? What Commissioner  
14 Hetterly just talked about is quite substantial. Are we ready to present it to the City  
15 Council or do we come back one more time so that you've had a chance to think about  
16 what she just said?  
17

18 Ms. O'Kane: Our last slide is to go through the schedule. To answer your question, we  
19 will not be able to go to Council in December because the agendas are already very full.  
20 We do have one more meeting to come back to the PRC in December with another draft.  
21 I'm sorry, November.  
22

23 Mr. de Geus: We hope that in November we'll have a full draft including the comments  
24 from today and a complete draft of Chapter 5. If possible, we'll still try to get to the  
25 Council by the end of the calendar year. As Kristen said, it looks pretty challenging right  
26 now. The meetings the Council has, there's only two meetings, December 5th and  
27 December 12, and that's the last meeting for December.  
28

29 Chair Lauing: As well as a draft EIR, something that has to be done.  
30

31 Mr. de Geus: That's going to happen into the new year anyway. We hoped that we could  
32 present a full draft to the Council this year, just because some of the Council Members  
33 are not going to be continuing, and they've had an opportunity to work with us for a  
34 couple of years. We're still trying to see if we can fit it in, but it looks like it might be  
35 challenging.  
36

37 Chair Lauing: Is that all?  
38

39 Commissioner Moss: I wanted to encourage us to try if at all possible to put this before  
40 the Council before the end of the year. That means that the comments we give you today  
41 can't be major.  
42

1 Mr. de Geus: I think they can be substantive actually. As you read Chapter 5, there's still  
2 some big gaps. There's going to be some substantive changes. We have the next several  
3 weeks to include those and rewrite. We'll probably meet as an ad hoc committee a couple  
4 more times so that November 16th, when we have our next meeting, you can read the full  
5 draft of Chapter 5. Then, we'll decide whether it's really ready, if we think it's ready for  
6 Council. We'll keep pushing to try and get a date for Council.

7  
8 Chair Lauing: I totally agree with that. Keep using the ad hoc as rigorously as possible.  
9 We can put a lot of cycles in it and come back. Anne, did you have comments?

10  
11 Commissioner Cribbs: No. I'm still troubled by this list. I'm not troubled, but just  
12 looking at the list and saying—if I were reading it without having the background, I  
13 would say, "This is the first one. This is the second one." I think we have to—if it's not  
14 prioritized, then we should say that it's not prioritized.

15  
16 Chair Lauing: I think we should maybe dig into that a little bit. Since I'm going last, I'll  
17 just make a few comments. Then, we can maybe look at that list. I'm still concerned  
18 about the language leading the thought process. As we've been saying for—it's almost 2  
19 years now. This is a strategic document. It's long-term. It's multiyear. There are some  
20 really big deal things on here that we have to start on now even though they're going to  
21 take 10 or 15 years to get through. We all know that, and we all believe that. We're all  
22 committed to that, up here and in the City and on the Council. I don't mean this as  
23 wordsmithing. I mean it as the right guidelines. In the first sentence of implementation,  
24 we start talking about the annual process. In the next sentence we talk about the annual  
25 cycle. Then, we talk about the annual action plan. Then, we start talking about the CIP  
26 process. When we get down to the paragraph, we say that we're going to determine the  
27 final order of implementation as part of the established CIP and operating budget process.  
28 You reference staff and PRC and Council. I actually think that point is wrong. What we  
29 really want to do is come to the Council with some things that are going to need  
30 something other than CIP on an annual basis that we're going to look at. I know some of  
31 it backs into the PRC, that you spend on an annual basis. I'm just concerned that if we  
32 couch this in the language that's annual plan and CIP and annual budgets, we're going to  
33 lose sight of the fact that, I think, separate action has to be taken on some of these items  
34 by Council to get some things done. I'm happy to help work on language there. I don't  
35 mean to detract from the fact that the CIP process is quite valid. I've been on that  
36 committee for years and so on. I'm just concerned about how we're setting that up.  
37 When we set up the groups, 0-5 years, 6-10 years, it's referencing the CIP process, which  
38 is on page 2, in the near term and even in the mid-term for 6-10 years. It may be that one  
39 of these things Council says, "We should do funding for that right now outside of the CIP  
40 process." That's the kind of potential action that we would like to encourage, I think, on  
41 some of these projects. I'm just a little concerned about how we're talking about it on a  
42 day-by-day basis. When we get down to long term, we don't have any comment at all

1 until we get back to the budget thing, where we talk a few pages later about various ways  
2 to fund this thing. It doesn't say capital budget or anything else. I just don't know if  
3 we're leading this thing in the right direction. That's my concern. I welcome comments  
4 from my colleagues on that. On the list itself, I think last time it was switched. We had  
5 projects first and then programs. A couple of us at least commented that the projects—I  
6 don't want to say that they're more important, but they're more elaborate, they're more  
7 initiatives, they're harder to accomplish. Maybe those should still be listed first for  
8 visibility. The discussion that I'd also like to have is when we look at this list of Group 1  
9 projects, I don't happen to agree that those are Group 1 projects. A lot of them that are in  
10 the Group 2 list should probably be up on the Group 1 list. Just because it can get done  
11 quicker doesn't mean that they're lower priorities. I still think we're kind of faced with  
12 that decision. Enhance existing playing fields, if we believe that that's really serious, then  
13 it's just as important, my goodness, as enhancing seating areas in the parks. It feels to me  
14 like we should still have a bit of a discussion here and in ad hoc in terms of the right  
15 priorities and maybe even the totals. We said last time there was nothing magical about  
16 30 things. We could make it 50 or whatever. To me this is such a meat of the findings  
17 section for everything that we went through that (a) it should be highlighted, but it should  
18 be a big part of what we're putting there. I'll pause for any comments. Are you pressing  
19 your button, Commissioner Hetterly?

20  
21 Commissioner Hetterly: I was just going to ask. I didn't understand the Group 1 and  
22 Group 2 as being Group 1 is more important, more urgent, we have to do those first, and  
23 Group 2 is not. I didn't think that there was a normative judgment around placing in  
24 Group 1 or Group 2. I thought it was about Group 1 projects, those are the ones that  
25 could be initiated immediately and potentially completed in the short term. Group 2  
26 required significant study before they could be initiated or required a specific funding  
27 strategy in order to accomplish that. Those two things would be the first step that should  
28 still happen in the nearer term, but it didn't make those less high priorities. I'm curious  
29 what the intention is and what other people understand.

30  
31 Commissioner Cribbs: If I could. I think it's maybe the way we're looking at it, the way  
32 we're reading it. It appears that Group 1 seems like it's more important than Group 2, but  
33 really the big things are in Group 2, at least from my perspective. The other thing about  
34 these groups is there are some things that I know that we do as a matter of course, like  
35 incorporate sustainable practices. If you could take some of those things and pull them  
36 out and put them in a different space that says, "We as a City believe in these things, and  
37 we do them on a daily basis," rather than putting them here like we're going to get—  
38 everybody's laughing.

39  
40 Chair Lauing: We're smiling because Keith and I are going to put up signs about best  
41 practices, best practices. We think they should be there period. It's the good judgment of  
42 staff that we know they're going to do that.

1  
2 Commissioner Cribbs: That's exactly what I was saying, that we do it on a regular basis.  
3 The same thing with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If those can get pulled out of  
4 these two, it would be great.  
5

6 Chair Lauing: Just to answer your question and maybe ask for clarification, the point that  
7 I'm trying to make is that I don't think we should be making a separation of priorities  
8 based on short term or long term. I think we should be saying as a Master Plan here's  
9 what's most important for the City to do. Now, let's figure out when. That is definitely  
10 up to staff and financing and so on. That's what my concern about short term versus  
11 further study in the sort of meat of the project. Here are our top priorities for the next 20  
12 years. Just to explain what my thinking is on how it's written. David.  
13

14 Commissioner Moss: Instead of saying Group 1, if you said "for example." Some of  
15 these can be done in the short term. Some of the other ones—the ones that say Group 2  
16 project needing further study, take away the word Group 2 and say essentially here are  
17 other projects that will take a little bit more study. That way it doesn't look like a  
18 prioritization; it looks like this is how we're grouping these things so that we can handle  
19 them better. Not a priority thing, but how we handle them. We handle them with a  
20 different process, not that one is more important than the other.  
21

22 Chair Lauing: Part of that actually is covered in the subsequent copy that you have  
23 written there in terms of going after parkland, the steps to be taken in what year and so  
24 on. I think the copy enhances what we're really trying to do.  
25

26 Commissioner Moss: One other comment I want to make about what you said about the  
27 process being tied to an annual ...  
28

29 Chair Lauing: CIP budget?  
30

31 Commissioner Moss: What he said about the annual process, I got the feeling that you  
32 already have these processes well in hand. They're ingrained in the way the City runs.  
33 What we're hoping with this long-term Plan is that you will use it to guide you in what  
34 we do every year. I don't think you can have a new process. You must stick with an  
35 annual process, but what you put in that annual process is highly dependent on this  
36 longer-term plan. Can we change the wording somehow to say that utilize the annual  
37 process that we have in place and be guided by this long-term plan. I don't know how  
38 you can word that better, but that's sort of what I think you're talking about. You're not  
39 talking about creating a new process.  
40

41 Chair Lauing: I think that is what's being said here. I think that's totally the intent of  
42 staff. I'm actually not arguing about that. I'm saying that what we need to do is raise up

1 these priorities and do it in a way that maybe says if we decide we need \$100 million for  
2 parkland, we can't look at that on—are we going to pull that off in the next 5 years? It's  
3 not a CIP by definition, because that isn't the process. That's probably a 25-year thing, so  
4 that can't fit that process, but we still need to do it. There are things that don't quite fit in  
5 that process. I'm sorry. Did you want to make another comment, Rob?  
6

7 Mr. de Geus: I'm just thinking about this topic. That was helpful to hear that point. I  
8 also felt Commissioner Moss articulated correctly what we were trying to accomplish  
9 here. We know that the City Council makes budget decisions during the budget process.  
10 They don't typically do it outside of the process. It's through the capital budget process  
11 and the operating budget process. We would fold that into there. The Chair is correct  
12 that there are other bigger aspirations in here that don't cleanly fit into the CIP annual  
13 process. How do we manage that and deal with that and make sure that it's clearly  
14 articulated here, that there are big next steps that we need to take beyond the CIP plan? I  
15 think that's very helpful. The other thing I wanted to mention, just back on how we order  
16 these. I was thinking just now—I mentioned to Kristen—is having a summary list like  
17 this really necessary. It seems like we're getting caught up on it a little bit. We're not  
18 able to describe in the summary what it is that we're talking about, so assumptions are  
19 made about how this list is put together and why is it put together that way. When you  
20 get a chance to actually read the description of the program, the sense of urgency and  
21 dollar amount, you have better context as to why it's listed as near, mid or long or high  
22 urgency or not. I just wonder what the value is of having the summary list. Maybe it  
23 causes more problems than not having it at all.  
24

25 Chair Lauing: It's an interesting angle to consider as a way around the problem.  
26

27 Commissioner Reckdahl: I personally like the list. I think we should just say that this is  
28 the list and it's not prioritized. These are the topics that we'll be covering. You can look  
29 at this in a half page and understand this is what I'm going to talk about. That puts you in  
30 the context when you start reading the list.  
31

32 Commissioner Hetterly: I think it's worth considering taking those Group 2 projects, the  
33 high cost, high effort projects, and putting them up front. These are the extraordinary,  
34 ambitious projects that we think are really important to do. Follow that with this is the  
35 stuff that should go through the regular process.  
36

37 Peter Jensen: In our conversations with the consultant on that, their idea was if you do  
38 put the bigger projects up front, then those projects dominate the list. If your list ends  
39 with the last program, which is a low-impact one, it looks like it is prioritized where the  
40 bottom of the list is not as big as the other ones. That's why they were switched around.  
41 When you got to the end of the list, it didn't seem like they were the small projects.

1 Those were actually the big ones, so it didn't get smaller in scale as you went down.  
2 Either way, how the list is—that was the idea of why it was done in this draft version.

3  
4 Chair Lauing: I think we have very smart Council Members. I think you can figure that  
5 out without too much trouble.

6  
7 Commissioner Reckdahl: I think the big ones should go up front, just because they take  
8 immediate action. If the other things on the list are delayed by 6 months or a year, not a  
9 big deal. The other things we want to get going right away because there's such a long  
10 lag.

11  
12 Chair Lauing: What was that?

13  
14 Council Member Filseth: (inaudible)

15  
16 Chair Lauing: They're used to being asked for money. They have to make those  
17 decisions.

18  
19 Council Member Filseth: If there's stuff that you're going to need, ask the Council. Tell  
20 us it's coming. I've been doing this for 2 years. We've had multiple study sessions. I  
21 don't think you guys have asked us for anything. Ask. We'll probably say no, but at least  
22 it will be in our mind when you come back next year. Ask.

23  
24 Chair Lauing: Exactly. That was even better put than how I tried to say it. It's exactly  
25 what I was trying to say. There is this residual issue here of some of these things might  
26 be okay not to be listed because you're going to do them or there are more projects. We  
27 should probably look at that one more time. What do we think about the quantity of  
28 items that are here? Those are a relatively arbitrary number of things. Are we not raising  
29 up the visibility on enough things or is this okay? Jennifer.

30  
31 Commissioner Hetterly: I'm not sure the quantity really matters. What matters is that we  
32 have the things we want to highlight included on the list. My question is really this list of  
33 30 things, it's not all inclusive of everything that we want to do out of the Master Plan. I  
34 think we should be clear that this is not a comprehensive list of everything we want to do  
35 in the next 20 years. These are the things we've identified as critical priorities to move on  
36 right away. In that context, I don't think it matters at all what the number is. We should  
37 judge what goes on the list based on what we think is a critical priority that should be  
38 highlighted for Council.

39  
40 Chair Lauing: Do we want to look at the programs section and kind of go through there  
41 with comments?  
42

1 Commissioner Cribbs: At the list or at the programs themselves?  
2

3 Chair Lauing: At the programs starting on page 5. Comments on 5. Go ahead, Keith.  
4

5 Commissioner Reckdahl: On the top of page 5, I'm kind of nitpicking here. Operating  
6 costs for grow partnerships, the very top one. We're saying that it's going to take between  
7 a quarter million and a million. I'm sorry, that's capital cost. \$5,000 and \$25,000, that's  
8 reasonable. I was thinking that this was going to be a capital cost. Forget that. Do  
9 (inaudible) down the list and then ...  
10

11 Chair Lauing: Yeah.  
12

13 Commissioner Reckdahl: That's all I have on that one. I guess also urgency being high,  
14 my same comment as before.  
15

16 Chair Lauing: We're just going to go page-by-page. I think that's the right process. Go  
17 ahead, Jennifer.  
18

19 Commissioner Hetterly: Page by page or item by item? Did you have a (inaudible)?  
20

21 Mr. de Geus: Chair?  
22

23 Chair Lauing: Yes.  
24

25 Mr. de Geus: It'd be helpful if—like Commissioner Reckdahl saying that he thinks the  
26 urgency shouldn't be high, if there's some sense of what the rest of the Commissioners  
27 think about that. I actually think it should be high. We can do a lot more if we have  
28 robust partnerships with our Friends groups, Friends of Palo Alto Parks, the Palo Alto  
29 Recreation Foundation. We need to invest in those relationships and partnerships, so that  
30 we're steering them to the highest priority projects that we have. I just mention it because  
31 otherwise we're going to go back and be sitting in an office saying, "Keith said that, but  
32 they answered this."  
33

34 Chair Lauing: You want to try to get closer to consensus ...  
35

36 Mr. de Geus: Yeah, a little bit if we could.  
37

38 Chair Lauing: ... without having to vote on every one.  
39

40 Commissioner Hetterly: I was going to say exactly that about that first one. I think it  
41 should be high for that very reason. I don't have others on this page.  
42

1 Commissioner Cribbs: On the first one, the marketing campaign, does it include money  
2 for a volunteer coordinator?

3  
4 Mr. de Geus: Those are the things that we talked about, the kinds of things that we would  
5 want to fund if we really want to invest in this one.

6  
7 Chair Lauing: I'm good with that page. David?

8  
9 Commissioner Moss: The third one about recruiting, do we want to say something about  
10 outsourcing? What we've been talking about with aquatics for instance. Do we want to  
11 say that that's an option? Expand recruitment and training or explore outsourcing. That's  
12 a perfectly legitimate solution.

13  
14 Mr. de Geus: Maybe public-private partnerships or some language like that.

15  
16 Commissioner Moss: Maybe.

17  
18 Chair Lauing: Page 6. Let's reverse it then. David, do you have anything on that?

19  
20 Commissioner Moss: Number 2, you have coordinate with Avenidas. What about Palo  
21 Alto Adult Ed? Do we want to say something about that? That's a huge source of  
22 programs for seniors. I think it should be highlighted. Does anybody agree or disagree?

23  
24 Chair Lauing: We fund Avenidas. That's why that's there. Anything else on that page?  
25 Anne?

26  
27 Commissioner Cribbs: No.

28  
29 Commissioner Hetterly: I would like to take youth out of the heading for expand  
30 aquatics programs. I don't think we only want to expand them for youth.

31  
32 Commissioner Cribbs: That's good, yeah.

33  
34 Commissioner Hetterly: I agree with Keith about the disparity between aquatics and  
35 seniors programs. I'm curious why aquatics rose to a high urgency as opposed to seniors  
36 and teens. Maybe teens we have made a lot of progress in that regard. I'd just love to  
37 hear a little more about how you ended up on a (inaudible).

38  
39 Ms. O'Kane: I'll respond to the aquatics first. I believe that got a high because we heard  
40 a lot of feedback from the community that they would like to see the aquatics program  
41 expanded, where we didn't hear as much, I would say, about seniors or maybe even teens.  
42 Do you want to expand, Peter?



1  
2 Mr. de Geus: I was just going to add on the aquatics that I think it can be changed. I  
3 don't feel very strongly about it. The aquatics program is upon us right now. The  
4 program we are running we know is inadequate, and we're not serving the public in the  
5 way we want to. We have to do something immediately. Whereas, the senior program is  
6 a little more of a slow burn, I think, over the time period.

7  
8 Commissioner Hetterly: That makes sense to me.

9  
10 Chair Lauing: Anything else on six? Keith?

11  
12 Commissioner Cribbs: Yes. I'm sorry.

13  
14 Commissioner Reckdahl: The aquatics, I was looking at the capital cost. That again is in  
15 the \$250,000 to \$1 million for the program. What would be the cost—I would think that  
16 would be a single dollar sign instead of two dollar signs. This is page 6 on the top,  
17 capital cost for the youth aquatics programs.

18  
19 Ms. O'Kane: That's a good question. We'll look into that a little bit deeper.

20  
21 Commissioner Reckdahl: That was just my knee jerk reaction.

22  
23 Commissioner Cribbs: Why is the nonacademic program for youth just a medium  
24 urgency? How did that decision get made?

25  
26 Mr. de Geus: We've done a lot for youth and teens, particularly teen programs, in the last  
27 several years through the work at Mitchell Park and the new center, through the  
28 Children's Theatre and the Teen Arts Council. The Art Center is also expanding their  
29 teen program. With the Bryant Street Garage Fund we're doing mini grants for teens. It's  
30 a program that's been heavily invested in over the last years. It's not something that we'll  
31 not continue to invest in. That's why it's in the list of 30. It's still a high priority in terms  
32 of the demand and sense of urgency. We're meeting a lot of the demand, we think. It's  
33 not like there's a huge gap necessarily. It's something that remains very important, that  
34 we need to continue to invest in.

35  
36 Commissioner Cribbs: It just seems like with all of the emphasis on what we're trying to  
37 do for kids and youth, that should go in the high priority even though we're already  
38 servicing and doing all sorts of programs and stuff like that. Maybe it's just the optics of  
39 it. I don't know.

40  
41 Mr. de Geus: If I could just jump back to the aquatics quickly, as I thought about that a  
42 little bit, why it has capital costs that are higher. The pool is not regulation length, so

1 that's something that—to fix that would be considerable. The facilities, the locker rooms,  
2 very old buildings. When the pool was renovated in the 1990s, those buildings were not.  
3 That would also be a significant cost.  
4

5 Commissioner Reckdahl: Is that program a recreation program as opposed to a facility?  
6 Does this include both facility aspects of the aquatics and also the recreation program?  
7

8 Mr. de Geus: It can include both.  
9

10 Commissioner Hetterly: Just so I understand. You're saying that this program is  
11 intended to incorporate not just programming changes but also the capital work involved  
12 with the Rinconada renovation that's been developed through the Rinconada Master Plan?  
13

14 Mr. de Geus: That's the way it's currently described. Correct.  
15

16 Commissioner Hetterly: I think it would be better to separate the two and put that  
17 Rinconada capital improvements under the costly items. I think it's likely to well exceed  
18 \$1 million, isn't it?  
19

20 Mr. de Geus: That's actually (crosstalk).  
21

22 Commissioner Hetterly: It would be more than two dollar signs, more likely three or  
23 four. I would pull that out and add it to the big ticket items.  
24

25 Mr. de Geus: That makes sense.  
26

27 Chair Lauing: Page 7.  
28

29 Commissioner Reckdahl: I had one. On page 7 on the very top, the timeframe being  
30 mid. Why would we not do an immediate intramural sports program? Near term, I  
31 guess, is the terminology. That's page 7 on the top.  
32

33 Chair Lauing: There's some going on now, right?  
34

35 Ms. O'Kane: There is the existing middle school athletics program.  
36

37 Commissioner Reckdahl: This is intramural. Is this less formal than the current  
38 program?  
39

40 Ms. O'Kane: This is less formal. It's less competitive. Anybody can play.  
41

1 Commissioner Reckdahl: Right now we do the middle school athletics, but we don't do  
2 anything in high school. The Council was saying, "If you don't make varsity, but you  
3 still want to play basketball, we should have some pick-up times so people who still play  
4 basketball and enjoy basketball can do it outside of the varsity program. I don't see any  
5 reason to hold off on that. I would make that timeframe near or near to mid.

6  
7 Chair Lauing: Is everybody okay with that? To Rob's point of trying to get some  
8 consensus here.

9  
10 Commissioner Cribbs: Yeah.

11  
12 Commissioner Hetterly: Yes.

13  
14 Chair Lauing: Is that it, Keith?

15  
16 Commissioner Reckdahl: (inaudible)

17  
18 Chair Lauing: Jennifer, on that page? The phraseology on the second one, since we've  
19 done this, has always seemed a little bit odd to me. I don't know if we can get any more  
20 specific or not. It's not a big deal. Other comments on seven? Page 8? None. Nine?

21  
22 Commissioner Reckdahl: I had a question about therapeutic program development.  
23 What does that mean? Is that for developmentally disabled, to help them progress?

24  
25 Mr. de Geus; Yes.

26  
27 Commissioner Moss: On the bottom of page 9, you should either say enacted  
28 immediately or acted upon immediately. Pick one.

29  
30 Chair Lauing: That raises that same question about whether this is going to be an  
31 immediate section or not. That's kind of part of the broader picture. I had that circled as  
32 a question mark as well. It continues on page 10. Go ahead.

33  
34 Commissioner Hetterly: In this section, which is formerly Group 1 projects, I think that  
35 the Conservation Plans should be the first item. I think instead of noting the timeframe  
36 for those as near to long, we should just say near. Also in the second to last line, it  
37 references that this will give Council clear direction on how to manage the Baylands  
38 using an ecosystem-based model. That needs to be deleted because it applies to multiple  
39 open space areas. That's page 10, second to last line of the text.

40  
41 Chair Lauing: Moving that up and striking the words "to long." Is everybody okay with  
42 that?

1  
2 Commissioner Cribbs: Yes.

3  
4 Chair Lauing: Moving to page 11 then.

5  
6 Commissioner Cribbs: It'd be the same long, the near to long on the first paragraph?

7  
8 Chair Lauing: I think so. Wasn't that your point earlier?

9  
10 Commissioner Hetterly: What are we talking about?

11  
12 Chair Lauing: On maintenance timeframe near to long, we should strike "to long."

13  
14 Commissioner Hetterly: Yeah. Thanks. In fact, on that first one on page 11, I think it  
15 might be helpful to break out the timeframe and say something like strategic planning is  
16 going to happen in the near term and the implementation will be ongoing on near to long,  
17 something to that effect.

18  
19 Chair Lauing: Do we want to talk about what staff has in mind with this comment on  
20 ADA? You're going to do that.

21  
22 Daren Anderson: Can you repeat that question? What our plan is to do in terms of  
23 ADA?

24  
25 Chair Lauing: You're always going to comply with the law and upgrade things as we go  
26 along. The question is does this really need to be stated as a separate objective or is that  
27 just the best practices we know as Palo Alto citizens that's what we're going to do.

28  
29 Mr. Anderson: I think what we have now is the best practice. I think we could do better.  
30 If we were really serious about upgrading our facilities to be accessible and exceed—  
31 remember, this is the minimum legally required as you restore areas. If we want to  
32 exceed that and get to universally accessible, then there's a lot of room to improve. My  
33 recommendation would be that we do leave it in as a priority individuated and separate  
34 from our regular, standard ADA upgrades that are part of every renovation and really  
35 push the envelope and see if we can be a leader in that field.

36  
37 Commissioner Reckdahl: The plan there is to do upgrades outside of the normal  
38 refurbishing?

39  
40 Mr. Anderson: It would be either that or to recognize it during the planning process for a  
41 CIP and expand that part of the scope. Frequently it's done piecemeal into what's already  
42 reckoned to be replaced. The playground is scheduled for replacement. We'll do ADA

1 upgrades with the playground, but we don't look at all the other amenities within that area  
2 to say let's do them all. If we were to focus on this as a priority, we would either make  
3 that existing CIP more robust for a given place or as a standalone CIP just for ADA  
4 upgrades. You choose areas within every park and focus on those. I think there's lots of  
5 possibilities. Either way, you take it more seriously and invest more into it.  
6

7 Commissioner Hetterly: I would recommend sprucing up the title to reflect that.  
8

9 Commissioner Moss: You want to put the word exceed somewhere in that title. That's  
10 the key word you're talking about.  
11

12 Chair Lauing: A leader among cities or something like that, if that's what your goal is.  
13 What do we think about the high urgency classification?  
14

15 Commissioner Reckdahl: I would say high urgency to get it started. I don't think we can  
16 expect that every park is going to be upgraded immediately, but I would think you'd want  
17 at least some parks. Right now, we have Magical Bridge, and that's about it. It'd be nice  
18 to have other options for people who have disabilities. I don't know if you would make  
19 that urgency medium to high, meaning that you start at high. (inaudible) completion is  
20 medium urgency.  
21

22 Chair Lauing: That'd be all right. I just had a question on what we believe is included in  
23 improve trail connections. That's for everything, right? Walking, biking, that's the intent  
24 there.  
25

26 Mr. Anderson: That's correct.  
27

28 Chair Lauing: All forms of transport. I don't know that that needs to be called out. I was  
29 just presuming that.  
30

31 Commissioner Reckdahl: For that trail connections, the capital cost is quite the range,  
32 from one dollar sign to three dollar signs. What was the thinking on that? Is there some  
33 options that we're considering that would be more expensive?  
34

35 Mr. Anderson: I think so. I think there are certain trail connections that if we wanted to  
36 make to adjacent agencies perhaps that could be rather expensive. I'm sorry I can't give  
37 you an example at the moment. I know there are some that are really easy, that wouldn't  
38 take much to improve connection, and others that are just more robust, perhaps involving  
39 bridges, for example. (crosstalk)  
40

41 Commissioner Moss: There's also purchasing. You may have to purchase a gap of land  
42 to get to, say, Thornwood or some other park.

1  
2 Chair Lauing: The next one's adult fitness.  
3

4 Commissioner Moss: Wait. You might want to add purchase somewhere in that improve  
5 trail connections, that that's a possibility.  
6

7 Chair Lauing: Adult fitness. I think a couple of us last time said we didn't think that  
8 scored that high from the community input. Were we wrong or have we checked that?  
9 What does your binder say? The grid.  
10

11 Mr. de Geus: We talked about it as staff. We did go back and look at the binder. It did  
12 come up. It wasn't necessarily a strong theme. This is one that maybe comes a little  
13 more from staff, just because we've seen the technology and the concepts of exercise in  
14 parks really be pretty innovative. Most recently, lots of new types of programs and  
15 activities, new types of equipment that's getting a lot of use in neighboring cities. We felt  
16 like it was important to keep it in here.  
17

18 Commissioner Hetterly: For what it's worth, there has been a lot of conversation on the  
19 Comprehensive Plan committee there's been a lot of interest in this kind of thing. That's  
20 just another anecdotal source of data.  
21

22 Mr. Anderson: I might add that we actually were starting to look at a Municipal Code to  
23 prohibit adult exercise in playgrounds, because it's that big of a problem that we have  
24 people do hard core and other exercise-related activities in a playground where it's not  
25 appropriate, which highlights the needs of course for something like an adult fitness area.  
26

27 Commissioner Reckdahl: What is the scope of this item? Would we try it in a couple of  
28 parks and see how it goes?  
29

30 Mr. Anderson: One good example would be we've got an antiquated system that really  
31 stems back to the 1980s at Greer. It's these isolated, really uninteresting and not very  
32 healthy or interactive pieces of equipment all around. It's that par course thing. No one  
33 exercises together, of course, because there's only room for one person at a time. That  
34 would be perfect to update that with something new, robust and interesting.  
35

36 Chair Lauing: Good example. Integrate nature in community gardens. No comments?  
37 Park seating.  
38

39 Commissioner Reckdahl: One of the things I would say in the park seating is more  
40 comfort. We have benches which are great if you want to sit. If you want to sit there and  
41 read a book, we don't have very many places in the park where it's really comfortable to  
42 sit and read a book. You can sit there for 10 minutes, and then you get uncomfortable

1 against the hard back. If there's any other options—the problem with the parks is you  
2 have to make things durable, and that makes it hard. Something that's comfortable and  
3 durable is a very small cross-section. If we could have something that'd be easier for just  
4 sitting, that'd be much better.

5  
6 Commissioner Hetterly: That begs the question of what are we thinking about in terms of  
7 seating. Are we going to look at any variety of seating, not just benches? We may have  
8 tables and chairs. We're looking for opportunities for people to gather and hang out in a  
9 park for a long time. Thanks.

10  
11 Commissioner Cribbs: Is this part where we were talking about opportunities for gifting  
12 for seating, like at the Baylands? Is this just meant to be seating in the park?

13  
14 Mr. Anderson: We have a fairly robust memorial bench program, where people can buy  
15 benches. They give us \$2,500, and they get a plaque and the bench is restored or a new  
16 one is installed. That's existing already, and it could be enhanced as well. We've often  
17 talked about expanding it to other areas. Following some best practices, benches are  
18 finite. You can only have so many in a preserve before, like a sign, it becomes overkill.  
19 You look at places like Disneyland and other areas like that where they've changed the  
20 model to pavers. You can have 1,500 pavers with donations associated with each one.  
21 Someone gets their name. Whereas, the benches in a certain park we might be looking at  
22 50 at a big park.

23  
24 Commissioner Cribbs: I was just thinking about a gift catalog where people could buy  
25 something for the City, put their name on it, and the benches came up.

26  
27 Chair Lauing: Let's move on to the projects. This first one on fields, I think the wording  
28 we have in the policy is to enhance existing sports fields, which I think is the right thing  
29 to do. Do we all agree with that first sentence, and isn't that going to vary by year and  
30 season and sport, not to mention policy? We've talked about this a number of times  
31 before in my last 7 years here. Effectively there's insatiable demand for fields, but that  
32 doesn't mean we need more fields. It means we need a policy to regulate 8-day-a-week  
33 practices. I get a little bit nervous because there's certain Council interest in let's put up  
34 some fields. That just takes up more space. We should be very prudent about building  
35 anything without a lot of study. Are we kind of leading the witness here by determining  
36 in the Master Plan for the next 20 years that we need more space? Plus, you reference the  
37 future growth, and the stats we've been looking at, that are in here, say that school kid  
38 ages are going to go down a little bit and then go up a little bit, as I recall. Did you want  
39 to comment?

40  
41 Commissioner Hetterly: I was just going to agree. I'd rather have it say something like,  
42 "With current demand and projected future growth, improving and maintaining is

1 important" rather than calling out that we aren't meeting the current demand with our  
2 current capacity.

3  
4 Chair Lauing: I love the language about clear plan to maintain quality and longevity.  
5 That's definitely what it's about. That's really good. Other comments on this item?  
6

7 Commissioner Reckdahl: I was looking at the capital cost. That makes me think what  
8 exactly is the scope here. It says hire a consultant. We're not re-turfing here. We're just  
9 augmenting; we're effectively doing preventive maintenance on turf. Is that what the  
10 scope is?  
11

12 Mr. Anderson: No. That's why you see that high dollar figure. Once you reconstruct  
13 and engineer a sports field, which is what some of the recommendations that will come  
14 out of this study will be. We've already spoken with a consultant who does this for a  
15 living and seen other plans they've done for other cities. Oftentimes, that's exactly what it  
16 calls for. When it was originally constructed, a ball field was a patch of dirt or grass.  
17 They lined it, and you played baseball or football or soccer on it. When, in fact, if you're  
18 going to have the amount of play that a City like Palo Alto or San Jose has, it really needs  
19 to be engineered, meaning you've got the right kind of soils that drain appropriately. It's  
20 got the right size. You've got the right irrigation system. If you're starting over, those are  
21 very expensive. You literally have to come in and take out what you've got, mix in the  
22 right kind of soil and rebuild.  
23

24 Female: (inaudible)  
25

26 Commissioner Reckdahl: We're talking about digging 6 inches down or how much do  
27 you have to ...  
28

29 Mr. Anderson: It varies. Part of this analysis that will come out of that study is a full soil  
30 analysis of what you're got. Some areas might be okay with slight amendments. I look at  
31 it as a far more robust plan to say, "Let's look at your need, how you've been scheduling  
32 sports, and prioritize how many fields you're going to have at this very high level." That  
33 will require maybe a complete tear out and re-engineer the soil. Others you might just  
34 make do with what you've got with the soil and the irrigation and the drainage. It kind of  
35 depends. I think they're going to put together a plan to meet our needs, is what I foresee.  
36 I think it could be on the high end. I also believe you'll have options. You'll have a  
37 Cadillac package all the way down to your more reliable Honda.  
38

39 Commissioner Reckdahl: Thank you.  
40

41 Commissioner Moss: One more comment about existing sports fields. I live behind  
42 Cubberley field. On Saturday morning, there must have been 400 people on that field,



1 which is about double what I've ever seen in all of history. Double. There were maybe  
2 20 or 25 or 30 teams from 4 and 5-year-olds to high middle school, maybe even high  
3 school, on the same field. I don't know how we're going to handle that crowd. Even if it  
4 went down by a third, the demand over 20 years goes down a third, it's still a lot of  
5 people on that field. I don't know what we can do. I thought we could get rid of the  
6 parking lot and just expand the grass, but the parking lot was full. I don't know what to  
7 do.

8  
9 Commissioner Reckdahl: Was that a City program or was that external where someone  
10 had rented the field?

11  
12 Mr. de Geus: I'm not sure what the program was. Unlikely to be a City program. It was  
13 probably a tournament of some type.

14  
15 Commissioner Moss: It was little kids playing soccer, big kids playing baseball. Big  
16 kids playing baseball, medium-sized kids playing baseball. Soccer on the big field, big  
17 kids. It was a mix. It was not just baseball, and it was not just soccer.

18  
19 Mr. de Geus: It's wonderful to see. If we talk to our field users, they would like to have  
20 more space and more fields if they can get it.

21  
22 Chair Lauing: The next one on here is the 10 1/2-acre site. My concern here is talking  
23 about a project at all at this point as opposed to just stay with what we've said before,  
24 which is to on a long-term basis evaluate options for recreational use at this site. I'm just  
25 a little bit concerned about leading the witness by talking about a project that makes it  
26 sound like there is one as opposed to it's just a wonderful resource that we've all created  
27 out of the golf course. We could leave it to the birds and the bees for 20 years.

28  
29 Commissioner Reckdahl: In general I agree with that. My only concern is that right now  
30 that whole area is kind of dug up. Even if we just want to leave it fallow now and say  
31 we're not going to put fields on it, but we're going to just let it go wild, you probably  
32 would want to do some prep work anyway. That would be much less cost than making  
33 fields.

34  
35 Commissioner Hetterly: I think you could add that to the list of things to consider. The  
36 way it's written now, it suggests that we should start a project that will either create  
37 athletic fields or a native habitat area or some combination of the two. There's not an  
38 option to retain it as a land bank, which sounds like what you're recommending, Ed. Is  
39 that correct?

40  
41 Chair Lauing: I'm not recommending anything. I just see it as a natural resource that we  
42 should be very careful about using up. That's all. We could fiddle with the wording if

1 there's enough consensus from this desk and that desk that we could fiddle with it a little  
2 bit. If you want us to talk about it more to flesh out some things.

3  
4 Ms. O'Kane: We can provide some alternative language and then discuss it with the ad  
5 hoc.

6  
7 Commissioner Moss: You've got the long-term—you say will require a long-term  
8 planning and funding effort. That's sort of saying that you can't just do this very quick.  
9 Isn't that enough language?

10  
11 Commissioner Hetterly: It does say that in the nearer term we want to do planning and  
12 design. If we don't know what we're planning and designing or whether we should plan  
13 and design anything at this point in time, then maybe doing that in the near term is  
14 premature.

15  
16 Chair Lauing: Other than what Keith suggested. It's going to be an ex-construction site,  
17 so something has to be done there. Let's fiddle with that. The next one down is  
18 Cubberley. Go ahead.

19  
20 Commissioner Hetterly: In the intro—I don't know if it's a separate paragraph. The top  
21 of page 15 mentions the requirement of an assessment of current and projected future  
22 needs and community. I would like that added to the second bullet, the prepare a  
23 comprehensive Master Plan study including a needs assessment, including appropriate  
24 needs assessment, whatever language you want to use, but I want to specify a needs  
25 assessment in there. It could also reference the Master Plan as something that would be  
26 incorporated in that process. I wouldn't say we should ignore all the work that's gone into  
27 this, but that's just one part of the bigger picture.

28  
29 Commissioner Cribbs: I would take out "particularly in south Palo Alto." When  
30 Cubberley is renovated, it'll be a great resource for all of Palo Alto.

31  
32 Commissioner Hetterly: I agree.

33  
34 Chair Lauing: No more on that. We'll go down to the question of a gym.

35  
36 Commissioner Hetterly: That one's missing the effort, cost, timeframe, urgency stuff.

37  
38 Chair Lauing: The summary of what we're saying there is that we're looking at the two  
39 areas, the 10 1/2 acres and Cubberley, evaluating that. Otherwise, we're going to  
40 evaluate it separately. We're not saying 100 percent certain we're going to put one in.  
41 We're still saying that it needs evaluation.

1 Mr. de Geus: This one, at least the 10.5 acres, we had some conceptual drawings of a  
2 gymnasium on the 10.5 acres as part of the athletic field, and it got a very negative  
3 reaction, let's just say, from the Planning Commission and even Council at the time. I'm  
4 not saying we shouldn't necessarily look at it again, but including it in the Master Plan I  
5 would ...

6  
7 Chair Lauing: I don't think the community was too charged up about that one either. The  
8 community input on that ...

9  
10 Mr. de Geus: Because it's in the Baylands and it's ...

11  
12 Chair Lauing: ... during the Baylands and the golf course situation.

13  
14 Mr. de Geus: ... a big building.

15  
16 Commissioner Hetterly: I think there's great support for a gymnasium, but very little  
17 support for a gymnasium in the Baylands.

18  
19 Mr. de Geus: That's what I recall too.

20  
21 Chair Lauing: Let's take out the whole Baylands reference here. That'll be okay with all  
22 of us. The 7.7 acres. Just for historical reference, this already has an ad hoc committee  
23 that was working on ideas for it. We truncated it because we needed to get the  
24 hydrologic study. That's back in '17, so it seems like from my perspective the ad hoc  
25 could just get reconstituted and drive this, lead this. It's always fantastic to get public  
26 recommendations, but I think the Commission has to be the leader on this and figure out  
27 the planning for that relatively urgently once we get this hydrologic study back. There is  
28 a lot of community demand and Council interest in getting this thing active.

29  
30 Commissioner Hetterly: I actually disagree with that. I think the ad hoc committee has  
31 worked really hard to get community input and guidance about what should happen to  
32 that site. They had a really hard time despite Herculean efforts to get people out there to  
33 look at it. I do think it would benefit from having a consultant help with that process and  
34 provide some options for the public to consider as opposed to trying to gin it up from the  
35 grassroots and figure out what people want.

36  
37 Commissioner Moss: Yeah. You have notes and information about that. I don't know if  
38 Keith was on that committee, but it certainly would be nice to not lose all that and to have  
39 a starting point when we reconstitute it. If there's anything you have about it already.

40  
41 Chair Lauing: Yeah, there is stuff already. I don't think we're in that big of a  
42 disagreement on that point. I'm just saying that the public has been asked, but they could

1 be asked again. I don't think we want to hand it over to somebody else because we're  
2 involved in this. If there's a consultant working with the ad hoc like we did on the Master  
3 Plan, with the right consultant, then that could be great.

4  
5 Commissioner Hetterly: I think that's fine. I just don't think that the ad hoc alone can  
6 drive a project of this magnitude and complication.

7  
8 Chair Lauing: I was reading this as saying the public was going to drive the  
9 recommendations. That's why I brought it up. They have to be incorporated, but I don't  
10 think we should just leave it there.

11  
12 Commissioner Reckdahl: The 7.7 acres is so hard. It's going to take a lot of thinking.  
13 The ad hoc knows it was a lot of work. We never found the perfect answer, and I don't  
14 think we will. We'll have to always balance the lesser of two evils.

15  
16 Chair Lauing: Daren gave some good, honest estimates about what that would cost to get  
17 that back to actual dirt from that impacted stuff that's there right now. It's not trivial.  
18 Parkland.

19  
20 Commissioner Moss: I was wondering if the capital cost would be four dollars instead of  
21 three dollars. Three dollars is up to \$5 million. That would buy a lot. Maybe a lot and a  
22 half. I'm just thinking bigger.

23  
24 Commissioner Reckdahl: Also, I would say that this is one that should be high urgency,  
25 just because right now real estate prices are high. Once everything is multifamily units,  
26 it's going to be really high to buy multifamily units and tear those down.

27  
28 Commissioner Hetterly: That's one where I might break it out and make a process for  
29 identifying sites and developing a funding strategy a high urgency. Whereas, acquisition  
30 is going to be variable depending on availability and population growth. Maybe you  
31 could nuance the urgency a little bit. Since I have the microphone, I also think that it's a  
32 little funky having the collaboration with the School District in the acquire new parkland  
33 in high-need areas. I think maybe we want to separate out the School District  
34 partnerships as expanding access to facilities or something like that. We're not really  
35 trying to acquire parkland in that context. However you do it, I would not leave it as  
36 plan, fund and maintain the construction of park elements in school grounds. I think we  
37 could participate in those things, but we don't want to be exclusively responsible for that  
38 as the City on School District land.

39  
40 Commissioner Moss: One comment on that. Were you thinking that we would purchase  
41 something from the School District? For instance, take over Cubberley.

1 Commissioner Hetterly: No. I also would like to add in maybe a program in Chapter 4,  
2 maybe a bullet here about what Shani was mentioning earlier. We've talked about in the  
3 CAC, a program for accepting legacies and bequests of land. That is another way to  
4 expand parkland inventory. I'd like to add in the concept of long-term lease. A purchase  
5 isn't necessarily the only way that we can access additional parkland. Long-term lease  
6 arrangements with private landowners are certainly a possible way to go.

7  
8 Chair Lauing: I like all those additions. That's going to need an ad hoc in '17.

9  
10 Commissioner Hetterly: I would love to throw out there again this AT&T site at  
11 Boulware Park. It is a huge opportunity. Somebody needs to figure out and we need  
12 to—I don't know how we can best weigh in to push for that. That is hugely time  
13 sensitive, and we're not going to get another opportunity that good in a really long time. I  
14 don't know what role we as a Commission can play. I'm looking to staff for guidance  
15 about that. I don't want to just keep saying it and have nothing happen.

16  
17 Mr. de Geus: I can give you just a quick update on that. It's definitely got the attention  
18 of the Mayor and the City Manager. We're in contact with the property owner, so those  
19 discussions are happening. With respect to purchasing property, that's something that the  
20 Council has to consider. I believe they do that typically in closed session when it comes  
21 to property purchases. I can tell you that staff are actively working on that.

22  
23 Commissioner Hetterly: It would not be helpful for us to pass a motion saying we would  
24 support that kind of activity consistent with all the learnings of the Master Plan process,  
25 something like that. Council Member Filseth, is that something that would be useful to  
26 the Council or can we just say it's in good hands and we don't need to worry about it?

27  
28 Council Member Filseth: I'm about to text the Mayor and ask him (inaudible).

29  
30 Commissioner Hetterly: Thank you.

31  
32 Chair Lauing: If he responds quickly, he can still get a motion tonight. You can tell him  
33 that too.

34  
35 Commissioner Moss: It's more a point of the process. In the future, this is going to come  
36 up again. Is it helpful for us to take a vote or do you just know because of this Plan that  
37 we're all in favor all the time?

38  
39 Chair Lauing: At the point we recommend this, that'll be there. It's a little bit trickier  
40 when you get into private ownership as opposed to AT&T ownership, where they don't  
41 need the land anymore. That's why this is even more urgent. It's a very unusual  
42 opportunity that you're not buying it from a private owner.

1  
2 Ms. O'Kane: Chair, could I interrupt? I have to excuse myself from the meeting. You're  
3 in good hands. We'll see you next time.

4  
5 Chair Lauing: We have the dates on other meetings or whoever you're delegating this to  
6 has this, right? The wayfinding signage of safe routes to parks.

7  
8 Commissioner Moss: I was wondering why there were so many dollar signs for signage.  
9 It seems like there should just be two dollar signs. Were you planning to purchase some  
10 land as a way to get to a park, a safe route?

11  
12 Commissioner Hetterly: Surely we're not going to spend more than \$5 million on  
13 signage.

14  
15 Mr. Anderson: No, no.

16  
17 Chair Lauing: Per the public comment tonight, we don't want to get too carried away on  
18 lots of signs, particularly in the natural areas. That's what we're looking for, natural.  
19 That's it on the priority projects. What kind of comments do you want on the action  
20 plan? Do you want to present any part of that or just keep going here?

21  
22 Mr. Jensen: We'll take comments on that section if you have any.

23  
24 Commissioner Hetterly: My only remaining comment was on the progress reporting. I  
25 would like to see that include reporting on funding status under the various funding  
26 streams and how we match up in terms of our sufficiency of maintenance funds, etc.  
27 That's not true. I also had comments on the funding section. I still would like to see in  
28 the IBRC paragraph ...

29  
30 Chair Lauing: What page?

31  
32 Commissioner Hetterly: I'm sorry, page 20. Middle of the page, it talks about in addition  
33 Palo Alto's Infrastructure Blue Ribbon Committee blah, blah, blah. I found the wording  
34 in that paragraph very confusing. I'd like you to just take another look at it to see if the  
35 language can be cleaned up a little bit. I would also like it to take note, unless this is not  
36 correct, that the catch-up identified in the IBRC report reflects only those needs that were  
37 identified and prioritized as of 2012. It's now 2016 going into 2017. I imagine there are  
38 additional items that weren't included in the IBRC, that we would still consider catch-up  
39 items that have perhaps accumulated since then. I don't know if that's accurate or not. If  
40 it is, I'd like to see that reflected. Alternately, if we feel like the catch-up and keep-up  
41 that's covered under the infrastructure budgeting plan is all we need to be golden for our  
42 maintenance.



1  
2 Mr. de Geus: Peter can probably speak more to this. I understand that the IBRC report  
3 and list of catch-up and keep-up projects from 2012, when it was published, is an  
4 ongoing, working document that the staff in Public Works primarily are continuing to  
5 revise and update with new data, new numbers, new costs. Is that correct, Peter?  
6

7 Commissioner Hetterly: I also would suggest that the first paragraph under potential  
8 funding options could be combined with the language under funding gap. Then, move  
9 that heading down to just above expand existing funding sources. It seems a little bit  
10 redundant. Thanks.

11  
12 Chair Lauing: Any others?

13  
14 Commissioner Moss: I have a comment on page 23. Are we there yet?

15  
16 Chair Lauing: Yep.

17  
18 Commissioner Moss: That combining Master Plan project with other infrastructure  
19 projects, do we want an example of that? Like the East Bay Shore/San Francisquito  
20 Creek change. There's a huge facility that went in where Ciardella used to be, a flood  
21 control. It's just a big concrete block. If there was some way that we could have put  
22 something on top of it, that kind of thing in the future, that would be great. Put a mound  
23 of dirt on top of it and a bench on top of the mound of dirt.

24  
25 Chair Lauing: No other comments?

26  
27 Council Member Filseth: (inaudible)

28  
29 Chair Lauing: I was going to say we would entertain a motion in support of the City  
30 making best efforts to acquire this available land for extension of Boulware Park.

31  
32 Commissioner Hetterly: Do we want to include in that consideration of the roadway?  
33 We do have a program in the Master Plan that talks about looking at streets for possible  
34 conversion into parkland. The way it's set up you have Boulware Park here, then you  
35 have a road that comes here and here, and here's the AT&T property. It's an "L" that  
36 doesn't get a lot of use. I think our commenter tonight suggested it could be limited to  
37 emergency vehicles. I think it might even be worth considering whether there's a need  
38 for it to remain open for emergency vehicles or if we'd want to turn it into parkland. I  
39 don't want to solve that tonight. It might be useful to acknowledge that that's something  
40 on the table that we would support considering.  
41

1 Chair Lauing: One's purchasing, and one is using a road to be rededicated, but it's going  
2 to the same Council. It seems to me like it could be in the same motion. That's what  
3 we're trying to support, get a bigger park there.  
4

5 Mr. de Geus: First of all, this is a discussion item, so we really can't take motions. The  
6 agenda isn't noticed specific to this piece of property. It wouldn't be something you could  
7 make a motion on this evening. The message is clear; we understand where the  
8 Commission stands on this. It just further illustrates the need for staff to keep working on  
9 this, and the City Manager with the Council on the possibility of this property.  
10

11 Chair Lauing: We can put it on as an action item and notice it for November.

12  
13 Mr. de Geus: We can do that.

14  
15 Chair Lauing: Thank you, Council. What's that?

16  
17 Commissioner Moss: Do we have until November?

18  
19 Chair Lauing: Yeah.

20  
21 Mr. de Geus: We're not going to wait until November. I'll talk to ...  
22

23 Chair Lauing: Thank you for taking that action, Council Member Filseth. Anything else  
24 that you need on the Master Plan or should we go on to the next item?  
25

26 Commissioner Moss: Do you want another indicator on page 25? Number of teams and  
27 sports, something like that. That seems to be a big indicator of how much use we get.  
28 Under number of time slots used on sports fields, I'd say number of teams and sports on  
29 sports fields.  
30

31 Chair Lauing: As opposed to the bullet that's there, is that what you're saying?  
32

33 Commissioner Moss: Yeah. I was even thinking in addition to time slots. Number of  
34 time slots, teams and sports on a particular sports field or used on sports fields.  
35

36 Chair Lauing: That could work. Keith.

37  
38 Commissioner Reckdahl: On page 25, this call to action, what is that? It's a section that's  
39 going to be written, but what's the content going to be?  
40

41 Mr. de Geus: The idea is to have some concluding, aspirational remarks about the Plan.  
42 We've actually been talking about maybe it could even come from the Commission or a



**DRAFT**

1 letter from the Commission that could even go at the front of the Plan. We thought that  
2 might be a nice addition to the Master Plan, so it really has two bookends. Not long, a  
3 page. One of those could come from the Parks and Rec Commission. We drafted some  
4 things. It's not really ready yet, but we thought we'd send that along next time.  
5

6 Mr. Jensen: If we're done with the review of Chapter 5, we will talk about next steps.  
7 Next Tuesday night, we're having a community meeting for the Parks Master Plan to  
8 review the draft, taking the comments that we've received tonight and incorporating them  
9 into the draft that the community will see and get a chance to respond to. That meeting is  
10 next Tuesday night at Mitchell Community Center, the Adobe Room, from 6:30 to 8:00.  
11 There will be starting—a few days after on November 3rd the draft Plan will be posted  
12 online very similar to how the site concept plans were with the ability for the community  
13 to review the draft there and also to respond to or provide input about the draft Plan itself.  
14 Those things are coming up. There's also been discussion about the next PRC meeting in  
15 November and having that on the 16th. At that date, we'll be bringing the full draft back  
16 to you again for review. As was alluded to before, depending upon the City Council  
17 study date, there could be an opportunity to bring it back again in December to you for a  
18 last review and recommendation to the Council. Within that timeframe, which we have  
19 talked about before and is not on here, the environmental review, the initial study of the  
20 document will start sometime in the next couple of weeks. That has a time to prepare it.  
21 It also has a period that it has to be reviewed by the community. That basically pushes  
22 the adoption of the actual Plan into the new year. We're still showing that happening—  
23 we're hoping that Council can get a study session in January, and then sometime in  
24 February or March, right after that, once the environmental work is done, we can take it  
25 back to them for adoption of the Plan. That's the timeline of the process right now.  
26

27 Chair Lauing: This timeline we had in our packet showed a Master Plan review on  
28 December 12th by Council. That's off, correct?  
29

30 Mr. Jensen: It's not off, but I think they're still trying to negotiate that date, and it doesn't  
31 sound like that's going to be possible with the current agenda items there. I think Rob is  
32 still trying to push for that and work on that. We'll cross our fingers, but it seems more  
33 likely that it'll get pushed to the new year.  
34

35 Commissioner Moss: Maybe we could have a preliminary review, a short one, on the  
36 12th, while we still have all the members on the Commission.  
37

38 Mr. de Geus: The Commission certainly will see it. They'll see a full draft in November  
39 and again in December if it's necessary. It's the Council that's the question. Whether we  
40 can get ...  
41

42 Commissioner Moss: I meant in front of the Council.



1  
2 Chair Lauing: The date for the December meeting is the Wednesday, but that's the 13th.  
3 Right?

4  
5 Commissioner Hetterly: (inaudible)

6  
7 Chair Lauing: They must have used a paper calendar that was wrong, because it says  
8 Wednesday the 13th here.

9  
10 Commissioner Moss: Both the November and the December meetings are on a  
11 Wednesday?

12  
13 Commissioner Hetterly: Yes.

14  
15 Chair Lauing: That's it for the Master Plan. Thank you, Peter.

16  
17 **5. Other Ad Hoc Committee and Liaison Updates.**

18  
19 Chair Lauing: Ad hoc committee and liaison updates. Are we going to hear about the  
20 dogs?

21  
22 Mr. Anderson: Yes, I can give you a brief update on dog parks. I've been working with  
23 the ad hoc committee on this topic and what we do as next steps. We had a productive  
24 meeting identifying the way forward. We would target the top two spots, that is Peers  
25 Park. You might remember that Bowden had been another option in the nearer term. As  
26 we really got into looking at what it would take to maneuver around the public art in the  
27 spot, it became problematic. Peers, at least for the nearer-term project, has less hurdles  
28 and also benefits us and it's much larger. It's one of the largest options we had at 0.73  
29 acres. Between Peers and—you also might recall the other nearer-term option we looked  
30 at was Eleanor Pardee Park. The problem there that we received some feedback from the  
31 environmental groups was that the area we had identified was very heavily treed with  
32 oaks. Their concerns was (a) there's a lot of wildlife amongst the oaks, and (b) the dog  
33 run would negatively impact the trees. There was an early iteration of our examination of  
34 Eleanor Pardee that identified another spot. It met all the criteria. It's mainly open lawn  
35 that we'll consider actually as an alternative to that one. Right now, I'm doing outreach  
36 with the stakeholders. These are the environmental groups, the dog groups too. Before  
37 we do the public meeting to make sure I've got buy-in from some of the key stakeholders,  
38 make sure they agree and flush out some of the problems and resolve them before we  
39 host the public meetings. We'll do one for each of those neighborhoods, one for Peers  
40 and one for Pardee, with the idea that we'll identify one of the two as the leading  
41 candidate to move forward with as our nearer-term one. The other one, depending on our

1 feedback, could be one of the ones we do in the future. Public meetings coming soon is  
2 the update on dog parks.

3  
4 Commissioner Moss: Do you have an update on Baylands Conservation Plan?

5  
6 Mr. Anderson: Yes. We're putting out that item to bid. We developed the scope with the  
7 help of the Commissioners and some ad hoc and staff and other stakeholders,  
8 environmentalists. We have got a really solid scope, I think, for that going forward.  
9 We'll put it out to bid and see who we get. Right now, the last step we just did was to  
10 pull together firms that we recommend bid on it. Staff had a bunch of recommendations.  
11 That's going through the process with purchasing.

12  
13 Commissioner Reckdahl: I was out at Baylands at Byxbee. It looks like there's more  
14 work there. Are they adding the cap on the southwest side? It looks like they're doing  
15 more work on that one corner that had been done for a while.

16  
17 Mr. Anderson: I believe they're importing additional dirt for settling areas that have  
18 settled, that they're required to raise back up to Code for water drainage off the former  
19 landfill, now Byxbee Park. The other work that's going on is the completion of the  
20 Byxbee interim plan, which is one of my updates for you. I don't know if the photos  
21 went out, but I sent one out to the Commission a couple of days ago, that shows plants  
22 going in. This is the vegetated habitat islands. Plants are going in right now. The  
23 irrigation system's going in. The next step—probably between now and the end of  
24 November, we'll have the benches and the signs come into completion. That'll wrap up  
25 our interim plan for Byxbee.

26  
27 Commissioner Reckdahl: At the junction point, there were mounds on each of the  
28 corners. Are those mounds going to stay elevated or are they going to be filling around  
29 them?

30  
31 Mr. Anderson: The vegetated islands are raised.

32  
33 Chair Lauing: Any other ad hoc reports?

34  
35 **V. DEPARTMENT REPORT**

36  
37 Chair Lauing: How about Department Report, if you could do that.

38  
39 Mr. de Geus: Just a few things to report. The golf course project is moving along nicely.  
40 I've had a chance to be out there several times. I was out there last Thursday again and  
41 did a tour with Forest Richardson. Most of the stockpile has been moved into place. I  
42 want to say they're maybe 60 percent or something like that. You may remember one of

1 the goals is to get golfers up, so they can actually see the Bay and see the water and the  
2 coastal hills. That's a reality. We are nice and high, could definitely see the Bay. Got a  
3 chance to take a few holes and see how it's going to play. It's really coming together.  
4 Happy to see that progressing. You may recall that we did the replacement of the  
5 restroom as part of the capital project. We're hoping we can bring that back in. We just  
6 heard more feedback from the golfers. Now is the time to do it if we're going to do it.  
7 We're trying to figure out how we can with a lower-cost restroom, but go in there and  
8 replace it. That's something that we're looking to do. Just some quick announcements  
9 about other events that are coming. The Junior Museum and Zoo is doing a Halloween  
10 night this Friday, 5:30 to 8:00. They do a terrific job, the staff there. You want to attend  
11 certainly if you have any kids in your life. You should get down there. Also, there's a  
12 big veterans event that we're planning largely with the leadership, actually the City  
13 Manager's Office and Janice, Jim Keene's assistant. We have a general that's going to  
14 attend. It's on November 7th at Mitchell Park Community Center. It should be a really  
15 great event. If you're interested in that, I'll just look at the time for that. It's 3:00 to 4:00  
16 p.m., veterans services and resource tables. From 4:00 to 5:30 is the recognition event.  
17 It's Lieutenant General Rex McMillian. I don't know who that is, but apparently he's a  
18 big deal. That's all I have to report.

19  
20 Mr. Anderson: I have a few park updates for you. The sailing station dock at the  
21 Baylands had—you might know there's two docks, an upper dock and a lower one. The  
22 connecting piece had broken, and part of the lower dock was dislodged and falling apart.  
23 It had been closed for several weeks while we were working on getting the contractor in  
24 to repair it. It's now repaired and back open. We're happy about that. It turned out nice.  
25 Expect to get many more years of use out of it. Sarah Wallis Park is having some work  
26 done in it starting today. The concrete pathways are being repaved, as an FYI. We'll also  
27 be putting in replacement benches and trash cans for that site. It's a very small park.  
28 This is at 202 Ash Street, if you're not familiar with it. The Foothills Park/Los Trancos  
29 Trail, I think I mentioned in an update a month or two ago that we had completed the  
30 repairs. This was where the contractor had come in and looked at structural fixes for the  
31 wash-out areas on the back side of Los Trancos out at Foothills. Did a terrific job, came  
32 out well. I hiked it right after this last rain, and the parts he had repaired held up nicely.  
33 Some of the other areas needed a little work as they always do just given the nature of  
34 trails in the hills like that. They need work in the rainy season. All in all, really proud of  
35 the way Los Trancos Trail worked out. Encourage the Commission to go take a hike on  
36 that one. I think you'll enjoy it. Lastly, on the hydrology study. We've completed the  
37 survey work. I got to look over a preliminary hydrologist report of their findings, which  
38 is basically unintelligible. I don't have anything great to share with you yet. We're going  
39 to take that and mold it into something digestible for non-PhDs in hydrology. Really  
40 soon that will lead to a couple of options to look at. We'll have the public come out, have  
41 a public meeting, come to the Commission with that as well.

1 Chair Lauing: Thank you.  
2

3 **VI. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
4

5 Chair Lauing: Any announcements from up here?  
6

7 Commissioner Cribbs: I just wanted to ask how is the health of our trees in all the parks  
8 right now.  
9

10 Mr. Anderson: I would say in the urban parks things are looking really good for the  
11 trees. We've got lots of planting. In fact, when I spoke to Canopy about Pardee Park  
12 where we were looking at that dog park, they said they are doing more oak restoration  
13 work there. That's kind of exciting. Lots of planting going on there. In our open space  
14 areas, we continually struggle with some of the challenges with sudden oak disease  
15 killing some of the oaks. It's a real challenge for the entire region, not just for Palo Alto  
16 of course. I think as part of the Urban Forest Master Plan, there are specific programs to  
17 address that. Not that there's some cure that we can solve the problem with, but more  
18 selective planting to plan for the future forest up there.  
19

20 Commissioner Cribbs: Thank you.  
21

22 Chair Lauing: Go ahead.  
23

24 Commissioner Moss: I want to piggyback on what Shani said about the shuttle,  
25 suggestion for the shuttle. I sent out a note that they have now just created a shuttle from  
26 East Palo Alto through Redwood City, through Menlo Park, to both Edgewood Park and  
27 Wunderlich Park. That just started. There are big signs at those parks to announce the  
28 shuttle. I was thinking how do we get that going up to, say, Arastradero Preserve or even  
29 Foothills. Our problem is that Foothills isn't open to everybody. That's why I would  
30 hope that perhaps we could have some of these community events. For instance, a  
31 Foothills Park open house once a month or once a quarter, and you have a shuttle to that  
32 as a starting point rather than the way they have it now. It's every Saturday and Sunday  
33 that they have this shuttle going. I don't know how often. That seems a bit much for us.  
34 Arastradero Preserve is not that big. It would probably be better if we tied it to a special  
35 event, say, at Foothills.  
36

37 Commissioner Hetterly: I just have a question about the Parks and Rec Commission  
38 interviews. When are those going to get scheduled or have they already? Do they start in  
39 December or do they start in January?  
40

41 Chair Lauing: The 16th.  
42

1 Commissioner Hetterly: They start on the 16th. Thank you.

2  
3 Commissioner Moss: If we don't get people and these guys roll off ...

4  
5 Commissioner Hetterly: That's pretty close.

6  
7 **VII. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER 16, 2016 MEETING**

8  
9 Chair Lauing: Agenda for next time. Is the Zoo going to come see us?

10  
11 Mr. de Geus: Probably not. I can give you an update on the Junior Museum and Zoo.  
12 The Friends are still designing. The cost for what we had hoped we could build were a  
13 little higher than anticipated. They've actually gone back to the drawing board again,  
14 looking at a one-story facility in a smaller footprint again. I think it's very good.  
15 Actually I think it might be more palatable in the long run for perhaps the Commission  
16 but the community generally. That's kind of where I think it's headed. We are scheduled  
17 for a study session with the City Council on November 28th to give them an update on  
18 how things have been progressing with negotiations between staff and the Friends. That's  
19 the next check-in with the City Council under a study session. You might want to tune in  
20 there.

21  
22 Council Member Filseth: (inaudible)

23  
24 Mr. de Geus: No. They've got a target of \$25 million and actually doing outstanding. I  
25 think they're at \$24 million. They're right there. It's just the cost of construction has  
26 gotten so high that it's just not—what we had designed is just many millions of dollars  
27 higher than the \$25 million target.

28  
29 Chair Lauing: Not to get into a lot of the details, but is the parking about the same as it  
30 was before?

31  
32 Mr. de Geus: It is.

33  
34 Chair Lauing: Agenda items that we'll have—sorry. Go ahead.

35  
36 Commissioner Moss: Are we going to hear from Team Sheeper?

37  
38 Mr. de Geus: We're planning on November 16th bringing the aquatics program back.  
39 We haven't made a lot of progress there. Actually the feedback from the Commission  
40 last month was very helpful. We're getting close to making a recommendation to work  
41 with Team Sheeper. I wanted to be sure we have a chance to meet with all of the  
42 different stakeholders, though, before we formally make the recommendation, which

1 we'd like to do with the Commission to get your feedback and hopefully support, and  
2 then move to Council after that. Currently, it's scheduled for December 12th. That is on  
3 the agenda for the Council, at least right now.  
4

5 Chair Lauing: I'm only hearing Master Plan and aquatics and the Resolution on the  
6 AT&T acquisition. Keith.  
7

8 Commissioner Reckdahl: There was some talk about having a tour of the ITT, as  
9 opposed to AT&T, facility. Is that going to happen?  
10

11 Mr. Anderson: I'd be glad to set that up.  
12

13 Commissioner Reckdahl: If we get more than a quorum, then we have to notice that,  
14 right?  
15

16 Mr. de Geus: Yes.  
17

18 Commissioner Reckdahl: Will Catherine send out some dates and then we can vote on  
19 that? Is that how we're going to go about doing that?  
20

21 Mr. Anderson: I defer to Director de Geus, but we had discussed the option of maybe  
22 doing it with smaller groups. There's problems with that site that aren't safe for having  
23 the public just wander around just yet. I think a safer option might be a smaller number  
24 for private tours at this point until we can get the facility safe.  
25

26 Mr. de Geus: I agree with that.  
27

28 Commissioner Reckdahl: This could be either the same tour or a separate tour. I really  
29 would like to look into the Baylands Athletic Center. They're trenching and making the  
30 levee right next to it now. I'd like to see how that's going to impact the athletic fields.  
31 Would that be a separate tour or would that be ...  
32

33 Mr. Anderson: I'm not quite sure yet. I think it would be a conversation with Tygart, the  
34 company that's doing that work. It's independent of CSD staff. We're not associated with  
35 Tygart. We could connect with them and ask. It'd be nice to get in there and take a real  
36 look as opposed to staying on the periphery.  
37

38 Commissioner Reckdahl: What about things like the PAG softball and the Babe Ruth?  
39 Would they be invited to come along?  
40

41 Mr. Anderson: To the tour, to see ...  
42

1 Commissioner Reckdahl: To see how the levee is going to impact the athletic facility.

2  
3 Mr. Anderson: I think I need to look into it a little bit to see ... I'll have to get back to  
4 you on that.

5  
6 Commissioner Reckdahl: The last time I was out there, when you look at that it looks  
7 like it's going to be coming right by the softball field. We're talking 5 feet away from the  
8 softball field. It's going to be very ...

9  
10 Mr. Anderson: It will be very close.

11  
12 Commissioner Reckdahl: Very close. The plan is to have some type of high fence there  
13 or what are we going to do to prevent foul balls from going into the levee?

14  
15 Mr. Anderson: I don't know the answer. I'll have to go look into it.

16  
17 Commissioner Reckdahl: Thank you.

18  
19 Chair Lauing: Are there any other agenda items that people want to have for next month?  
20 Any other announcements or anything?

21  
22 **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

23  
24 Meeting adjourned on motion by Commissioner Hetterly and second by Commissioner  
25 Cribbs at 10:02 p.m.