



**MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
March 23 , 2021
Virtual Conference
Palo Alto, California**

8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33

Commissioners Present: Chair Anne Cribbs, Vice Chair Jeff Greenfield, Jeff LaMere, David Moss, Jackie Olson, Amanda Brown

Commissioners Absent: Keith Reckdahl

Others Present:

Staff Present: Daren Anderson, Do, Lam

I. ROLL CALL

Chair Cribbs: Welcome, everybody, to the March 23rd meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. It's nice to see you all. It's a beautiful evening. I believe it's the first day of spring as of this weekend. We're moving into the Orange tier tomorrow, and Stanford women are playing basketball right now in March Madness, so all seems to be good.

[roll call]

II. AGENDA CHANGES, REQUESTS, DELETIONS

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Cribbs: We can move on to Oral Communications. Lam, if there are any members of the public who would like to speak on anything other than what's on the agenda tonight.

Mr. Do: We do have one public speaker who has raised her hand. The speaker is Rebecca Saunders.

Ms. Rebecca Saunders: Good evening, Commissioners. My name is Becky Saunders, and I live in Ventura I have two comments for your tonight, so I'll strive for brevity. Even though we are so excited to see Boulware expanded, it's not enough for Ventura now, nor for Ventura when a development endorsed by PTC will garner us 2,000 new residents and 800 new workers, and no park. I was very discouraged to see the outcome after two years



1 of working group input from the PTC advancing this high-density proposition with no
2 meaningful parkland. Also, the neighborhood input working group, I think only one person
3 on the working group actually voted for the high-density option. I'm asking you Parks and
4 Rec people to please ride herd on Council for us, and please corral us a park at the Frye's
5 development. It's just not fair to starve us of a place to play when it is such a need – as
6 you know – a necessity, for human well-being. Thank you so much for hearing me on that
7 issue, and then this is just some housekeeping. I was running around this morning at the
8 corner of Page Mill and El Camino at about 7:45. I noticed that the parking lot for the
9 soccer field had quite a number of cars in it, maybe one-third full, but only about three
10 guys were on the soccer field. I was just wondering if the vehicles might belong to workers
11 in the area, and maybe we are leasing that parking out for the construction workers over
12 on 2755 El Camino? I just wanted to remind you to help us support parking for the people
13 using the parks because there actually would be no place to play if enough players arrived
14 to field two teams for even one of the fields. I found that concerning. Maybe the City is
15 making a little money on the side, but I just wanted to bring that to your attention. Thank
16 you so much.

17 Chair Cribbs: Thank you very much. I believe that finishes Oral Communications. Thank
18 you very much for comments.

19 **IV. DEPARTMENT REPORT**

20 Chair Cribbs: Daren, could we go to the Department Report, please?

21 Mr. Anderson: Thank you, Chair. We thought we would start with sharing a video. This
22 was shared with Council last night. This is Community Wellness and Wellbeing, with a
23 number of programs that the City has implemented this year.

24 [video]

25 Chair Cribbs: Before you go on, excuse me for interrupting. That was a great video to
26 show. It really warms everybody's heart to see that in the middle of COVID, so thanks to
27 everybody for doing that. Again, sorry to interrupt, but I evidently missed a hand that was
28 up during Public Comments. I wonder if we could ask that speaker to come back, and
29 listen to the comment. I apologize.

30 Mr. Anderson: No problem.

31 Mr. Do: Thank you, Chair. Our next speaker is Angela Dee [phonetic].

32 Chair Cribbs: Thank you. I apologize. I looked earlier and didn't see a second hand.

33 Ms. Angela Dee: Thank you so much. I'm sorry. I was one minute late logging on, so that
34 was my fault. I apologize. I'll read what I have written down. I know that the Parks and



1 Rec Commission is separate from the PTC, but I want to say just something about parks
2 in general. Palo Alto is well-known for its high quality of living and for its beautiful parks,
3 even in parts of the city where residents’ homes sit in large, parklike gardens. Palo Alto’s
4 public parks welcome everyone to gather, relax, listen to music and play together. So,
5 while an urgent need for housing is driving the City to waive its development standards in
6 order to approve the construction of more dense, multi-family buildings in the North
7 Ventura area – something I support – little attention is being paid to the park acreage
8 necessary for these new residents. Palo Alto should probably enjoy at least as much
9 recreation space as, say, a resident of San Francisco has. Residents of San Francisco have
10 4.22 acres of public park space per thousand residents, and every resident of San Francisco
11 lives within a ten-minute walk of a public park. The same cannot be said for Palo Alto,
12 which has only 2.67 acres per thousand residents. That’s 2.67 versus the 4.0 recommended
13 by the Comprehensive Plan. If thousands of new residents do come to live in the south end
14 of Palo Alto, including the Ventura neighborhood, the need for acres of new public
15 parkland will become even more acute than it is now. I don’t believe that Palo Alto
16 residents would support the practice of crowding its less wealthy citizens into small areas
17 and providing no public amenities, such as public parks. Thank you very much.

18 Mr. Do: There are no more public speakers.

19 Chair Cribbs: Thank you so very much. Daren, back to you. Thank you again.

20 Mr. Anderson: Sure, thank you, Chair. The other updates I wanted to provide also have to
21 do with information that was shared with Council the other night. I wanted to share about
22 Wellness Wednesdays. These are different ways for the community to connect with
23 wellness. You can find this website by googling City of Palo Alto Be Well and Stay Safe.
24 These Wellness Wednesdays are every third Wednesday at 5:00 p.m., and they’re
25 recorded, so you could watch them even after they’ve passed. The upcoming one in April
26 will be on earthquake preparedness, and in May it will be teen mental health. I also wanted
27 to provide you an update on the May Fete parade. We are going to do it this year. It’s going
28 to be different than in years past. It’s going to be a video of past May Fete parades. The
29 Mayor is going to speak on it, and the theme would be, “What a Wonderful World.” It’s a
30 call for people to decorate their homes and their yards and their businesses, leading up to
31 that first Saturday in May. There would be a map of this route, where people could walk
32 it and bike it and see these decorated houses. More details to come soon, but there would
33 be a big video shared on May 1st, and it would be a parade in the sense that you could drive
34 around and walk around to look at these decorated areas, and it would be a virtual event
35 on the day of. Other programming updates: There are tentative plans for movies in the park
36 and musical performances in the park. Certainly, pending what COVID allows for, but
37 that’s coming soon, and more information will be coming to you on that. Library and CSD
38 have been offering teen programs, and we’re continuing the Teen Leadership Program. I
39 know that’s always a subject of importance and interest for the Commission. I don’t have

1 the details tonight, but I'd be glad to bring those at upcoming meetings. There's also a new
2 program coming out through the Libraries. It's a donation of laptops to community
3 members who need them. This is in partnership with Hewlett-Packard, where if you donate
4 a laptop, they will wipe it clean and see that it gets used by someone who is in need. On
5 the COVID topic, I wanted to update you that Santa Clara County, as the Chair had
6 mentioned, is moving to the Orange tier tomorrow. That means capacity limits for indoor
7 activities will increase, and the types of sports allowed will be broadened. Registration fro
8 spring classes is now open, and summer camp registration opens on April 1st for residents
9 and April 8th for non-residents. We're safely offering over 120 in-person summer camp
10 sessions, following all of the County Health Guidelines. CSD has decided to hold off on
11 allowing indoor rentals to the public until the County does enter the Orange, possibly
12 Yellow, tier. So, for those indoor rentals, we're still working on that and not ready yet to
13 rent them. Adult recreational groups are allowed to start back up as long as they meet,
14 again, the State and County Guidelines. An update on impact fees: The Commission
15 looked at this not too long ago, and it was tentatively scheduled to go to Council and got
16 moved. It's now on target for April 12th to go to City Council, and at that same time, a
17 Colleagues Memo referring to the Parks and Recreation Commission the review of a new
18 skatepark has also has been pushed from the March 15th date to April 12th. I wanted to
19 make you aware of some activity happening at the Baylands. This is tomorrow, March
20 24th. The County of Santa Clara Vector Control District will be conducting an aerial
21 treatment for salt marsh mosquitos and the Western Equine mosquitos in the Palo Alto
22 Flood Basin. The treatment is scheduled to start at approximately 7:30 a.m. and last a few
23 hours. This method allows for targeted and effective application for the difficult-to-reach
24 areas of the marsh. The treatment will use naturally-occurring microbes and a mosquito-
25 specific hormone the District has been using for over 25 years. There will be temporary
26 closure of the trails going around the Flood Basin. However, the rest of the Preserve will
27 be open. If anyone has questions about this, they can reach out to Vector Control. I'm
28 going to give their phone number real quickly, in case anyone watching is interested in
29 calling them for more details. It is 408-918-4770. That is Vector Control, who is available
30 for calls Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. At the Council meeting last night,
31 Council reviewed CIPs planned for FY21 and Council directed staff to reduce the FY21
32 capital budget by \$2.5 million. Staff from multiple departments are meeting this week to
33 discuss options for how that might look. I'm sorry I don't have details to share this evening
34 on that, but more information to come. Council also reviewed and approved the Ramos
35 Park Improvement Ordinance, excluding a fence that had been associated with a dog park.
36 The Park Improvement Ordinance (PIO) had moved on in advance of us determining that
37 a dog park would not be a good fit for Ramos. Council struck that part from the plan, but
38 otherwise moved forward. However, the preceding item they discussed, which was the
39 reduction in those overall capital programs for FY21, may mean that only a portion of the
40 improvements called out actually happen. Again, that will be determined soon, as staff
41 works on this. Chair, that concludes the Department Report.

1 Chair Cribbs: Thank you very, very much. I'm really happy that the May Fete Parade will
2 continue in a form, so great work on that and all of it. Do any of the Commissioners have
3 any questions for Daren specifically about the report?

4 Commissioner Moss: The Vector Control – is it also going to spray Renzel Pond area, or
5 just the Marsh?

6 Mr. Anderson: They've only identified the Flood Basin.

7 Commissioner Moss: I'm thinking of the one behind you, behind the offices?

8 Mr. Anderson: That's right. It's between there...It's large. That's a 600-acre area, so very,
9 very large. It's completely levied off, and it's between Mountain View Shoreline and, as
10 you know, either the back of Bixby or the MSC offices for that area.

11 Commissioner Moss: What about the Lucy Evans Nature Center or the Laumeister tract?

12 Mr. Anderson: No, it won't be over by any of those spots. Not by the Duck Pond, the
13 Nature Center, or the Faber-Laumeister Tract.

14 Commissioner Moss: Or the golf course?

15 Mr. Anderson: No.

16 Commissioner Moss: Okay, thanks.

17 Chair Cribbs: Any other questions?

18 **V. BUSINESS**

19
20 **1. Approval of Draft Minutes from the February 11, 2021 Special Parks and**
21 **Recreation Commission Meeting**

22 Approval of the draft Minutes was moved by Commissioner Olson and seconded by
23 Commissioner Moss. Passed 6-0.

24 **2. Approval of Draft Minutes from the February 23, 2021 Parks and Recreation**
25 **Commission Meeting**

26 Approval of the draft Minutes was moved by Commissioner Moss and seconded by
27 Commissioner Olson. Passed 6-0.

28 **3. Foothills Park Policies**

29 Chair Cribbs: Everybody can see that we have 120 minutes devoted to this item and the



1 discussion, so we have some work to do tonight. The goal is to pass the motion, the
2 recommendation, to the City Council. I also want to make sure that we hear
3 recommendations from the Ad Hoc. I want to make sure that all of the Commissioners
4 have a chance to present their thoughts as well, in case there needs to be a little tweaking
5 of the motions. At the end of our discussion, I think the goal is to pass a single motion.
6 With that, I will turn it over to Daren.

7 Mr. Anderson: Thank you, Chair. This is an action item regarding Foothills Park policies.
8 I thought I would start with a brief update on the recent visitation at Foothills Park. From
9 January 1st to March 18th only – and this is 2021 – approximately 83,400 visitors in 41,500
10 vehicles entered Foothills Park. Sixty-two percent of that visitation was on weekends and
11 holidays; 37.6 percent on the weekdays. During that same timeframe – again, only January
12 1st to March 18th in 2020 – there were 29,000 visitors and 15,000 cars. That 2021 visitation
13 is 194 percent higher than the same period in 2020. At our February 23rd Commission
14 meeting, we reviewed and discussed a range of Foothills Park policy considerations, some
15 of which had been recently adopted by Council but had not previously been commented
16 on by the Parks and Recreation Commission. The PRC agreed to support some guidelines
17 while referring additional details back to the Ad Hoc committee for additional assessment
18 and follow-up recommendation. The Foothills Park Ad Hoc Committee met four times to
19 discuss these policies. We grouped policy considerations into four different categories –
20 policies to include in the March 23rd recommendation; policies adopted by City Council
21 and supported by the PRC but not previously commented on the PRC; potential Foothills
22 Park policy updates that had been reviewed by the PRC but not included in these current
23 recommendations that may be reconsidered in future recommendations; and the fourth
24 category, the Parks and Open Space policies that are broader than just Foothills Park and
25 that we would review and consider these for a future recommendation. After further
26 consideration by the Vice Chair, Chair and I, we believe it would be best to include all of
27 these into one recommendation and motion to Council. The Vice Chair helped put together
28 a draft motion that I’ll share shortly that I think will help serve as a great starting point for
29 the PRC to make and vote on a motion this evening. That first category that we talked
30 about includes policies the PRC recommends the Council take action on to implement
31 changes. These are regarding the large vehicles. This is the over-nine-person capacity. The
32 free park days; the free vehicle entry for student groups with a reservation; free passes
33 available at Palo Alto Libraries; free Foothills Park annual passes for fourth grade students;
34 and the removal of the nine hillside barbecues for fire safety. We discussed these at our
35 last meeting, and the Ad Hoc thinking on each of these is listed in the staff report, so I
36 won’t go over them in my presentation. The second category is the policies adopted by
37 City Council and supported by, but not previously commented on the PRC. These are the
38 use of the term “vehicle entrance fee” versus “parking fee.” The six-dollar entrance fee for
39 vehicles with up to nine-person passenger capacity; the free entry for vehicles with
40 disabled persons license plate or placards; and the pedestrian and cyclists entering
41 Foothills not counted towards the visitor capacity and not charged an entrance fee. The



1 third category, these are policies that the PRC reviewed and does not currently recommend
2 making any changes to. However, they recommend investigating and further reviewing
3 these through the calendar year 2021. That’s the visitor reservation system that we’ve,
4 again, talked about before; the dog policies; and the daily fee waivers. The fourth category
5 is those Park and Open Space policies to review that are broader that still may affect
6 Foothills Park and would just be considered slightly different because they do carry over
7 to so many other areas. The Ad Hoc had identified Foothills Park concerns that are
8 governed by these broader policies, and the Ad Hoc recommends that the Ad Hoc review
9 these policies and return to the PRC at a later date with updated recommendations. It’s the
10 photography and videography policy; special event permits; gathering permits for groups
11 over 25; groups of 24 or fewer with no reservations or permit required; and then the special
12 request interpretive program for things like canoe rentals and Ranger talks. Lastly, I just
13 wanted to provide an update on environmental monitoring and data. I know this is an area
14 of great importance to the Commission, and it is to the Ad Hoc as well. The Ad Hoc
15 reiterated that they support the monitoring efforts being performed by Grassroots Ecology
16 and the Open Space staff, as well as the work that’s being done by the stakeholder group.
17 That stakeholder group consists of representatives from Grassroots Ecology, Friends of
18 Foothills Park, Environmental Volunteers, Stanford University Haas Center for Public
19 Service, Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, Los Altos Hills, and the Chair and Vice Chair
20 of the Parks and Recreation Commission. That stakeholder group has three initiatives right
21 now, I just wanted to share with you. One is developing a five-minute video that would
22 help educate visitors on the principles of “Leave No Trace,” “How to Recreate in Foothills
23 Park Responsibly,” and “How to Prepare and Make the Most out of a Trip to the Preserve.”
24 The group is also working on establishing a Trail Ambassador Program through a
25 partnership with the Environmental Volunteers. The goal of that program is to provide
26 volunteer-led engagement with Foothills Park visitors, expanding their knowledge and
27 sparking interest in the park, as well as providing helpful information and resources and
28 encouraging environmental stewardship. A third initiative that the stakeholder group has
29 been working on is a list of infrastructure improvements aimed at protecting the habitat
30 and improving visitor safety and experience. We had finished two walk-throughs with the
31 broader group to look at the infrastructure. We’re collating all of that information, creating
32 a little sample draft of what that would look like. The next step is to meet and confer with
33 our Planning Department, to talk that through and get a better understanding of what kind
34 of CEQA process and timeframes for additional reviews would be necessary for which
35 components. What I mean is, there might be some elements of improvements, such as a
36 certain section of fencing to protect habitat, that could move forward in the near-term;
37 whereas, there may be other sections, like certain parking lot improvements and
38 installation of pedestrian pathways, that might be a little longer-term and require some
39 more environmental review. The Ad Hoc also recommends that the City prioritize a capital
40 improvement project to create a comprehensive conservation plan for Foothills Park as
41 soon as it’s economically feasible. They further recommend that the stakeholder group
42 recommendations be discussed with the Commission for feedback and be incorporated

1 into an interim environmental management strategy. To explain that just a little bit, I think
2 to juxtapose the two, on the one hand you've got something like a comprehensive
3 conservation plan, where we'd be hiring a consultant and it would be a very lengthy
4 process. The Ad Hoc was thinking of this other endeavor as being a scaled-back version
5 that could be implemented a little quicker, not require quite so much expenditure for a
6 contractor or time to implement. Lastly, the Ad Hoc also recommends that staff form
7 partnerships with universities and community colleges for environmental research and
8 study, as well as seek out advice and assistance on environmental monitoring from regional
9 land management agencies, like Midpeninsula Regional Open Space and others. Just to
10 recap the tentative timeframe, May 2021 is when Council could, in theory, if we get on
11 their agenda, review the recommendation that you make this evening. Then we would
12 come back to the Parks and Recreation Commission in July of this year to continue our
13 discussions on Foothills Park policy. You might recall at the February 22nd Council
14 meeting, Council's motion included the request for the PRC to return to Council with an
15 update in August. Chair, I'm going to close the PowerPoint and open up the Draft Motion,
16 and just very quickly walk the Commissioners through this, if that's all right.

17 Chair Cribbs: Yes, that's fine.

18 Mr. Anderson: I just want to acknowledge and thank the Vice Chair again for putting this
19 together. The beginning of this, as you can see, very closely mirrors what we had in the
20 staff report. That's the large vehicle policy, the pricing recommended by the Ad Hoc and
21 additional details related to that. It's got the free vehicle entrance days. This reflects a lot
22 of the thinking that we had from the broader group, with the Ad Hoc homing in on this.
23 As soon as I conclude my presentation here, I'm sure the Ad Hoc can add details to some
24 of their thinking, though it was included in your staff report. It's got the free vehicle
25 entrance for student groups with valid reservations. It's got the up to ten passes for the
26 Libraries. It's got the free fourth-grade annual pass, and then it's got the recommendation
27 to remove those hillside barbecues. The new sections relate to what we had just talked
28 about, these other categories that we wanted to include into the recommendation so,
29 Council knows that we're working on it and supports that if that's what they want, and
30 directs us to do so. These different categories, the second boxes that we had talked about,
31 are captured here in this motion. Chair, that concludes my presentation.

32 Chair Cribbs: Thank you very much, Daren. That was great. I really appreciate that. We
33 go back to scroll to the top of the motion. We go down to the second Roman numeral.
34 That's the motion that we really want to pay attention to, but then we want to add for
35 discussion the other three motions and vote on everything at the end, just to clarify. Right?

36 Mr. Anderson: Yes.

37 Chair Cribbs: So, what I'd like to do now is to ask Lam if there are any members of the
38 public who have their hand up to speak on this item. And then, we'll go to the Ad Hoc,

1 and then the rest of the Commissioners. If you have those clarifying questions, let's wait
2 until we get further through. Lam, any members of the public?

3 Mr. Do: Chair, we do not have any members of the public wishing to speak.

4 Chair Cribbs: I don't have any on my list, either, which is probably the same list, so okay.
5 That's fine. Thank you very much. Let's go now to the Ad Hoc. I'd like to compliment the
6 Ad Hoc. I know that many, many hours have gone into discussions, and I think that what
7 you've come up with is really good. I'd like to thank the Vice Chair for all of his additional
8 work as well. I'd also like to acknowledge the past Ad Hoc committees who did so much
9 work over the past two years on this, to set the groundwork. Jackie, as the longer-standing
10 member of the Ad Hoc, would you like to comment?

11 Commissioner Olson: Sure. I will say that we really tried our best to be thoughtful in all
12 the different areas and come up with all the various parameters. Thinking about fourth
13 grade, for example, when does that begin? When does that end? Should it be a whole year
14 from the moment you sign up, or just during the school year? We really did try to think
15 through all the different variables that we could think of, but we are three people, and you
16 are a lot more, so we certainly welcome any other input or identification of some things
17 that we didn't point out.

18 Chair Cribbs: Commissioner Moss, would you like to comment?

19 Commissioner Moss: I want to echo everything that Jackie said. It's a whole lot of work.
20 The other thing I want to emphasize is that this is not all, and that on a number of these,
21 we were torn because we need to get something to the Council as quickly as we can, so
22 we were trying to figure out what things we could deal with right now. Some of them may
23 need to be tweaked by the end of the summer, by the end of the year, but we need to be
24 able to give the Council something to vote on right away and then come back with tweaks
25 that may happen later. So, this is not the end all, be all. A lot of this was based not on long
26 periods of collecting data, because we don't have it yet, so we did the best we could. That's
27 all I wanted to say.

28 Chair Cribbs: Thank you. Vice Chair Greenfield?

29 Vice Chair Greenfield: Thank you. I definitely share the sentiments of my fellow
30 Commissioners on the Ad Hoc. This is an ongoing process, and this is one step along on
31 the process. As Commissioner Moss said, we're really focused on doing what we can do
32 right now, recognizing that this isn't everything, and a lot of decisions need to be after we
33 have an opportunity to analyze more data and see how things work out. It's going to be an
34 iterative process. I think it's important for everybody to understand that within the
35 Commission and the community. I think for most of the primary recommendations for
36 changes that we're encouraging and recommending, they're focused on providing

1 accessibility to specific target groups and also listening to feedback that we've heard from
2 Council members and members of the community in terms of ideas on how to expand
3 accessibility and make Foothills Park, soon-to-be Foothills Nature Preserve, open and
4 accessible and trying to consider this in an equitable manner. There's lot of different
5 considerations and many options but again, focusing on what we can do, and I look
6 forward to hearing from the rest of the Commission for your ideas to further progress this
7 along. It's a group effort and look forward to your feedback, and happy to answer any
8 questions in terms of what we're thinking on things, why we included something, and why
9 we didn't include other things, that kind of thing. Thank you.

10 Chair Cribbs: Thank you very much. Let's go to the other Commissioners. Commissioner
11 Brown?

12 Commissioner Brown: They did a lot of work, so I really compliment the Ad Hoc
13 Committee and Daren, and everybody involved in this. It's clear that a lot of thought went
14 into this. Everything that I read, I understand and I agree with it. It sort of dovetailed off
15 of our discussion of work planning. When I look at the added sections of what has been
16 reviewed but is not included in the recommendation, or what's moving forward, those read
17 to me like a work plan for the Ad Hoc Committee for the next year or two years. So, I was
18 sort of going back and forth, as everyone was talking about, "Well, should this really be
19 in the work plan document that gets presented to Council and then gets adopted?" Because
20 I feel like in my mind that's where they belong. However, in the spirit of transparency and
21 seeing Foothills Park on the Council agenda and getting that opportunity to be able to have
22 it in just one more place for the public to be able to see what's coming down the pipeline,
23 I actually think it's a very well thought out strategy, and I think it would be fine to have it
24 in both places. I would just suggest, as a non-member of the Ad Hoc Committee, that
25 whatever is included here gets mirrored in the work plan. Maybe that was the idea, but
26 great job.

27 Chair Cribbs: Great. Good suggestions. Thank you very much. Jeff, Commission LaMere,
28 as the longest running member, the oldest member of the Foothills Ad Hoc, would you
29 have any additional comments?

30 Commission LaMere: Only to thank the new Ad Hoc for what they've put together, and
31 certainly thank staff and Daren for all the time that they have spent on this, but I guess I'm
32 also appreciative of the process. I really think that we have tried to do justice to this
33 complicated problem and tried to really keep in mind the welfare of the park and the nature.
34 I think the time that we're spending on it is time very well spent. So, I'd just like to
35 compliment everybody and the public input, and the City Council's interest as well in this,
36 because it's such an important topic and important part of our city.

37 Chair Cribbs: I think that is very well said, Jeff. As I was reading through it once again, I
38 was thinking about how well this is balanced. The access, the visitor experience, the care

1 for the environment, for the animals and for the plants. I'm excited about the opportunities
2 and the partnerships with environmental groups and resources that we have with colleges
3 and universities and really excited about the planning for the future once all of these details
4 get nailed down. I'm very glad to see that we've included coming back to the Council in
5 probably September and then coming back again at the end of the year, just because I think
6 when we have some of the data that we need, it will serve everybody better in terms of
7 future decisions. Kudos to the staff and all of the work and to the Ad Hoc as well. Daren,
8 do we want, do you think, to just thoughtfully go through the first part of the motion and
9 make sure...? I don't think we need to read it out loud, but just to put it up there and go
10 through it and make sure that nobody has any questions or comments, or that the Ad Hoc
11 doesn't want to add something specific, or there's questions about why did you decide this
12 about this? Should we do that?

13 Mr. Anderson: I think that's a great idea.

14 Chair Cribbs: Okay, so let's start with number one. The first piece is the comments on the
15 vehicle entrance fee. Everybody is understanding of that and okay with it. Comments?

16 Commissioner Moss: I just want to make one comment. The reason we put those three
17 bullets under the \$60 per vehicles 25 and over, is that having a permit is pretty important.
18 We don't want tour busses, un-permitted tour busses, coming in and bringing 50 people in
19 unannounced. That's why we put those in there.

20 Chair Cribbs: From my perspective that was really smart to do because I can't remember
21 seeing a giant tour bus ever in Foothills Preserve. I don't know, if one got in, how one
22 would get out. Certainly, school busses, but those big, big, big busses, certainly that's not
23 something that was the intention, so this is a good way to do this, I think. Any other
24 thoughts about that?

25 Vice Chair Greenfield: I would also just add, what Commissioner Moss is talking about is
26 consistent with current policy, where a group of 25 or more people isn't permitted into the
27 preserve without a permit, without a gathering permit, and this is really stating it more
28 clearly and trying to clarify and illustrate this requirement to the public.

29 Chair Cribbs: Good. I also like it that we're not discounting or providing free entry, other
30 than students. I think that's a good thing to call out. I wanted to go back to the \$6 per
31 vehicle fee, which is consistent with the other county parks, and I think it's good for us to
32 be in that same price range. We've talked about that before. No need to say it again. Daren,
33 maybe you can provide some background about the choices for this, and the Ad Hoc can
34 comment about how you finally landed on this, because I know we discussed it in
35 February.

36 Mr. Anderson: Yeah, the Ad Hoc conversation was similar to the whole Commission

1 conversation, in that we bounced around about when Palo Alto school is out of session.
2 Would this allow someone the opportunity during the summer to come visit but not put
3 too many summer weekends in play, where it might be too crowded? It was an effort to
4 keep it at six, which the Ad Hoc felt was the right number. And again, it was consistent
5 with the existing national program that we're sort of mirroring this off of, and at the same
6 time spreading it out more than we originally proposed. And the Ad Hoc, I'm sure, can
7 add some details around the specific days.

8 Commissioner Moss: Yeah, we were trying to debate, should we have seven and add a
9 Sunday? We realized really just having a Saturday, a weekend, is important. Also, we had
10 them lumped up so that there were more of them earlier in the year, and we decided to
11 spread it out like this. We could have added one in November, but this is what we came
12 up with, and I think our biggest discussion was when in the summer, not if, but when, in
13 the summer should we have one day without really compromising things? We wanted it
14 to be after school ended and before school got back in session, so this is how we
15 compromised.

16 Chair Cribbs: Good work. The next one, point number three, talking about opening the
17 park. For me, this was always a really important thing to be able to offer to students. I
18 really like the way that this has been handled. Any other comments? [none] Okay, so
19 moving to the entry passes. From the Libraries, has that been...? Well, the libraries aren't
20 open yet, so it hasn't been implemented yet, but the Libraries are okay with that, Daren,
21 correct?

22 Mr. Anderson: That's correct. I had a conversation with Library staff, and they were
23 extremely gracious and willing to assist. They agreed to I think the model that the
24 Commission had hoped for, which is that you wouldn't have to check out a pass and have
25 to come back and return it. Instead, they'll be able to print it for you. You can pick it up at
26 the Library, but it's good for one particular day, and then you can discard it after that,
27 because it's a single-use pass. That allows us to maximize the available passes, so they're
28 not out and unavailable, waiting for someone to return it. It also protects us from the
29 COVID challenges of returning and having to sanitize something. It's just far more
30 efficient, and the Library staff is, again, willing to make that work.

31 Chair Cribbs: That's great, and I suspect that once this gets put into motion, there's going
32 to be a great display in the Libraries of environmental sustainability and flora and fauna
33 and Foothills Preserve and all of that, knowing librarians who are so great at that. The free
34 Foothills annual pass for fourth grade students. Maybe you can talk a little bit more about
35 that, because I think that's very exciting.

36 Mr. Anderson: Again, this is another one that was mirrored off a national park program. I
37 believe it was suggested by Council Member Cormack in one of the Council meetings. We
38 did some homework. I think the Ad Hoc did some good homework in finding the details

1 out and how we could make it available. The challenge was a little different perhaps in
2 that this would be an annual pass that they would be eligible to pick and that they would
3 need the student in the car, as you can see. Another key part was the conversation around
4 how we would phrase when this is available and when it would be good. I thought the Ad
5 Hoc did a good job of coming up with the terminology that they would be valid for one
6 school year, ending on August 31st, following the student's fourth grade year. It was our
7 best effort to try to add a little clarity while still having some flexibility.

8 Chair Cribbs: Any other comments?

9 Commissioner Moss: The key thing with this in number c. is when do you offer these, and
10 when are they done? You set a thing on the stand that says you can go from August 15th to
11 August 15th or whatever, so this is the best we could do.

12 Chair Cribbs: I think it works.

13 Vice Chair Greenfield: Something else I'd like to add real quickly. One of the important
14 considerations for these different options for increasing accessibility was to consider the
15 park management side of things and how this impacts that Rangers staff enforcement of
16 entrance fees and things like that. It's really much preferable for cars to have something
17 to place in their dashboards, particularly on weekdays, when the entrance station won't be
18 manned and where people will be purchasing a ticket at a kiosk, if they've paid. But if they
19 haven't and they've come in by some free means, and it's important for the Rangers to
20 have some means of distinguishing who doesn't need to have a pay stub or some sort of
21 annual pass, it makes this much more apparent. That was a consideration of the Ad Hoc.

22 Chair Cribbs: The barbecues. I think we've had this discussion for a really long time, and
23 it's really good to see it made into a motion. Any other comments?

24 Vice Chair Greenfield: This was something that we talked about at our last meeting, and
25 the Commission seemed to be in support of this.

26 Chair Cribbs: Many last meetings, yes. I think everybody was very much in support. Okay,
27 so that dispenses with the first set. Let's go to the second set. Questions or comments?

28 Vice Chair Greenfield: One thing that I would observe real quickly here is that all of these
29 items were discussed at the Foothills item, with the exception of not charging the entry fee
30 to bicycles and pedestrians. That was something that wasn't specifically discussed at the
31 previous meeting, so the second half of part D, but otherwise A, B, C and the first half of
32 part D are things we've covered already.

33 Commissioner Moss: And I think all of these could be up for review at the end of the
34 summer, or at the end of the year.

1 Chair Cribbs: Yeah, good point, David. Which is why it's great that we have those two
2 checkoff points, or check-in points.

3 Vice Chair Greenfield: It's also worth highlighting that this is commenting on interim
4 policy that City Council has adopted, so it's appropriate so that it can become a permanent
5 policy.

6 Chair Cribbs: Okay, I think we can move to number three. Daren, do you have any
7 additional comments on this?

8 Mr. Anderson: I think we talked about it a little bit. There's one part, I guess, that's worth
9 reiterating. I mentioned in that stakeholder group we've got Los Altos Hills staff with us,
10 and they're helping think through challenges. They shared with me recently some of the
11 feedback from their residents. I think it's germane, the previous one where we talked about
12 pedestrians and cyclists coming in for free. Related to that issue, they've got a concern
13 about it. Because it's free, it incentivizes people to park outside the park and walk in for
14 free, which can impact our neighbors. Secondly, they thought a reservation system, which
15 is part of this third category here, would also help limit some of those problems, of people
16 potentially parking outside and walking in if there was a reservation system. And perhaps
17 cut back on some of the crowding on Page Mill Road as well. We did share that we've
18 been working on different ways to reduce the crowding – greater efficiencies at the
19 entrance station, little things like a second card reader to get credit cards processed a little
20 faster. The implementation, hopefully soon, of ten-minute parking, where we can have
21 people who are paying by credit cards pull in and just alleviate some of the pressure of
22 vehicles backed up on Page Mill Road. I did just want to mention that those were concerns
23 of our neighbors in Los Altos Hills.

24 Chair Cribbs: It's going to take some time, I think, to work that out, since so many people
25 and jurisdictions and parties have to be involved in that. And some of it is really outside
26 of what we do as a Commission because it has to do with traffic and enforcement, correct?

27 Mr. Anderson: Yes. There is elements of all that, true.

28 Chair Cribbs: And signage as well. I think what's important is that it's good that this is on
29 there, and there will be some time for everybody who needs to have an opinion and do
30 some research about that, to get that done.

31 Vice Chair Greenfield: I would also comment further on the daily entry fee waivers. This
32 is referring to a number of the waivers for free entry the Council has already adopted.
33 Some of these may be more appropriate to include later as an annual pass option, again, to
34 address the staff concerns of how to enforce entry payment, on weekdays especially.
35 Different things we could consider in the future, maybe some of the daily free entry
36 without an annual pass would only apply on the weekends when the entrance gate is

1 manned, or maybe an annual pass is required instead. These are some considerations that
2 we'll have to follow and see how things go with what we have. This is just highlighting a
3 specific group of policies that we'll want to keep an eye on.

4 Chair Cribbs: I think it's all just really important to have this in this motion. Daren, do you
5 have a sense yet of whether you would make a comment or recommendation on this as
6 early as the fall, or wait until December, in terms of a timeline for the staff?

7 Mr. Anderson: Specifically, for the daily fee waiver portion, or all of this?

8 Chair Cribbs: These three that are on here. You don't have to have an answer right now.

9 Mr. Anderson: I think it's iterative, and I certainly think we would be monitoring all three
10 ongoing, and if it's ready and clear by the earlier review in July. For example, if we came
11 to the PRC in July and we've got clear path forward on those and good information, I think
12 it would make sense. If not, continuing to do the research and waiting for more data and
13 pursuing it later in the year if necessary would also be fine.

14 Chair Cribbs: Yeah, I was just interested in if there end timeline at this point, so thank you
15 for that.

16 Vice Chair Greenfield: I think it's important to highlight, as Daren mentioned, that our
17 target for the next Foothills Park action potentially would be July for Parks and Recreation
18 Commission, so that this would go to the City Council in the August/September timeframe.
19 It can be a little confusing, but just to keep it clear in people's mind, when we're talking
20 about the fall to go to Council, it's got to be going to the Commission a couple months
21 before that.

22 Commissioner Moss: I have another couple of comments. Certainly, the visitor reservation
23 system and the dog policy are near and dear to my heart. I fully hope that as soon as we
24 can, we'll pursue vigorously those two items. I don't want anybody to think that we didn't
25 want to spend time with them, or that we couldn't do something immediately, that we
26 didn't care. It's very important, those two, and I agree fully with the Los Altos Hills people
27 about the visitor reservation system. I think it would be very valuable, if we can make the
28 technology work. The big question, of course, is Los Altos Hills and Los Altos, who pay
29 no money towards the upkeep of the park. They are the near neighbors, and they bring
30 their dogs in and spend a lot of time in the park, and will be spending a lot of time in the
31 park, more so than, say, East Palo Alto. So, it's very important that we deal with those.

32 Chair Cribbs: Any other comments about number 3? Okay, then let's move on, Daren,
33 please..

34 Mr. Anderson: Chair, if you don't mind, just a quick comment on the reservation system.

1 I think it really is wise to do a little more research. I think rushing into one might cause
2 some unintended consequences, such as exacerbating some of those problems we already
3 talked about of people coming to alternative entrances, because they couldn't get a
4 reservation. I just think it bears a little more thought, probably a site visit to one of our
5 neighbors that has a reservation program. We've talked to Santa Clara County Parks, who
6 has one at Uvas, and pick their brains for details. But sometimes seeing it in person and
7 talking to someone out in the field to understand all the implications would be wise before
8 joining one. And then the other takeaway we learned in that short conversation with Uvas
9 County staff was that it does severely limit the number of people who get to come in,
10 because you've got to err on the side of reduced numbers, so that you don't exceed capacity
11 via the reservation system. It's just something to consider as we think about that one.

12 Chair Cribbs: Thank you for that. Daren, I'm going to ask you once again because you
13 know today when we were talking about it, I had a little bit of confusion, so would you
14 explain this first one, just to make sure we're all clear about what we're doing?

15 Mr. Anderson: Yeah, gladly. These are the broader policies that affect beyond just
16 Foothills Park and Open Space. There are Open Space and Parks policies, and the idea was
17 let's ask the Council to direct us to work on this, because this one is beyond our current
18 scope, if you will, of what we've been tasked with doing. But I think it's a lot of germane
19 things. There's, of course, requests and activity for videography and photography, and
20 there are special event requests, so it is very much germane to what happens to Foothills,
21 and all these things are likely to increase from where they were before, at least in terms of
22 requests now that our visitation is so much higher. So, each of these has an existing policy
23 around it, and the Ad Hoc looked at it, but it just became clear that it begs a deeper look
24 and a deeper dive into how these existing policies might impact Foothills Park, and is there
25 any prudent policy choices we should put in to safeguard and make sure that we're doing
26 our best to protect Foothills Park in these different ways to set us up for success, while at
27 the same time making sure we're consistent with other areas of the city where we have
28 these activities? I'd also defer to the Ad Hoc on this one as well, for their contribution to
29 the conversation.

30 Commissioner Moss: These existing policies are covering all of the city, all of the parks,
31 all of the open spaces, and trying to tweak individual ones with Foothills in mind might
32 have undue consequences to the other parks, urban parks, and other open spaces. So, we
33 have to be very delicate with these. Also, right now the Rangers have a thankless job, in
34 that they have to monitor these and manage these permits, so when somebody comes to
35 them for a group of 25 and over, or to do the group picnic area, they have a tremendous
36 amount of discretion today about how to deal with these groups. So far, over the years,
37 they've been able to manage it, and we're just not sure in this next year whether things are
38 going to break. Maybe they can continue to do what they've been doing for the last ten
39 years, but in spite of a 197-percent increase in visitation, can they still do what they've



1 been doing successfully? We just don't know, so therefore we left them alone, and we'll
2 see. This is certainly ones that we'll have to think about at the end of the summer, for sure.

3 Chair Cribbs: Okay, thank you. Jackie, any further comments about the policies?

4 Commissioner Olson: No. I think that covers it. Thank you.

5 Chair Cribbs: Thank you. And Jeff?

6 Vice Chair Greenfield: I'd just quickly add that we're aware of the potential impacts of
7 the policies at other parks, but we didn't spend any time at this point researching what the
8 impacts of changes would be at other parks. Really, this all came about in the course of
9 reviewing Foothills Park policy. We identified policies that weren't applicable just to
10 Foothills Park, so we kind of set these aside as out of scope and really not reasonable for
11 us to address a recommendation given the accelerated timeframe that we're working under.
12 Also, some of these policies, in addition to reviewing them in general, we also want to
13 look at increasing the transparency of the availability of these permits and the process,
14 because a lot of these permit requests and program requests aren't easily accessible or
15 discoverable to members of the public, so that's part of what we'd like to review, and also
16 there is potential for prioritization of reservations for Palo Alto residents, 25 percent
17 amount of time early before reservations are open to the general public, so that's something
18 we'd want to consider when reviewing these policies as well.

19 Chair Cribbs: Okay, that helps. I guess my concern – and I'm sure that it can be solved –
20 is that we continue to review the policies having to do with Foothills Park and get that
21 solved and settled before expanding to reviewing all the policies and all the parks.

22 Vice Chair Greenfield: I would add that this is specifically related to Foothills Park policies
23 and agree with what you're saying. It's important to keep our focus on Foothills. It's
24 possible that with further research, we could choose to recommend that some policies
25 diverge between Foothills Park and other parks and open space areas, or we might decide
26 that it's really appropriate to consider a broader new policy for all of the areas. The other
27 thing I'd add is this work doesn't necessarily need to be included as part of the Foothills
28 Park Ad Hoc. This could potentially be a different Ad Ad Hoc.

29 Chair Cribbs: A different Ad Hoc and a different work plan. Good. Okay, that's helpful.
30 Daren, I'd like to raise one more question before we go to a vote, because I think we're
31 close to being ready to do that, and we're doing really well on our timing – I have my
32 stopwatch running, just for you to know – but I'm wondering, did it make sense, or did
33 you decide not to include anything about research, surveys, counting animals, counting
34 plants? Did I miss that someplace?

35 Mr. Anderson: No. That is not part of the body of the recommendation here.

1 Chair Cribbs: Okay.

2 Vice Chair Greenfield: Chair if I could add something. You're kind of feeding into my
3 suggestion. I was inspired during Daren's presentation and consider something that we
4 didn't include that we probably do want to include, and I would like to propose adding an
5 item 5, which would be the Parks and Recreation Commission recommendation that
6 Council prioritize the funding of a Comprehensive Conservation Plan for Foothills Park.
7 That's the wording I've come up with. Daren may have had something a little bit –

8 Chair Cribbs: That's kind of along the lines of what I was asking about, Jeff, because
9 there's a lot of good work that's being done by a lot of people, and I think it's important
10 that it gets both acknowledged, and we support that work, even though it maybe doesn't
11 fit in this motion, but figuring it out. Using a Comprehensive Plan might cover it.

12 Commissioner Moss: It was mentioned in his staff report to do with environmental
13 monitoring and the stakeholders groups, which are a very important part of the work that's
14 going to be done outside of the Parks and Recreation Commission that we will have to
15 deal with when they make the recommendations. And of course, that Comprehensive Plan
16 or a short version, a quick version, of a Comprehensive Plan, is certainly something that
17 we're going to deal with, so putting something in here about that...but it's sort not
18 something that the Ad Hoc is going to be able to do by itself.

19 Chair Cribbs: Other comments?

20 Commissioner Olson: I think if we're asking for priorities, if we can have our wish list, I
21 would love to have the Head Ranger role prioritized as well, because I think that's even
22 more important than this, only because we're still really trying to catch up.

23 Commissioner Moss: Absolutely.

24 Commissioner Olson: If we're creating our wish list, I would love to have that be picked
25 up.

26 Vice Chair Greenfield: I think that's a great idea. Daren, maybe you want to add an A and
27 a B on that, after "prioritize" or something.

28 Commissioner Moss: And change Park to Preserve.

29 Vice Chair Greenfield: It's not a preserve yet.

30 Mr. Anderson: It takes effect April 15th.

31 Chair Cribbs: Gosh, we're all getting used to it early.

1 Vice Chair Greenfield: It is a preserve. It always has been a preserve.

2 Mr. Anderson: How does that read? Did I capture your thoughts, Commissioner Olson and
3 Commission Greenfield?

4 Commissioner Olson: Yes.

5 Vice Chair Greenfield: So, I wonder if we'd want to include "as soon as economically
6 feasible," or not. I'm open to other people's thoughts on that.

7 Commissioner Moss: Just delete that.

8 Vice Chair Greenfield: And you could probably get rid of the semi colon at the end of A,
9 just for consistency.

10 Chair Cribbs: And move the B over. Yeah, there.

11 Vice Chair Greenfield: I wouldn't try to do that too hard.

12 Mr. Anderson: For some reason, it –

13 Chair Cribbs: Okay, never mind. We won't try to do that right now. Okay, so any other
14 comments from anybody?

15 Commissioner Brown: Sorry, I'm going backwards a little bit, to number 3. I don't know
16 if we want to include language based on our discussion tonight about analyzing the impacts
17 to existing policies. To Daren's point, if we're looking at doing a reservation system,
18 maybe there needs to be changes to the pedestrian and bicyclist policy. So maybe just
19 make that clear, that there's sort of the consideration or analysis of the already-adopted
20 policies, or the impact on those policies. There's probably a much nicer way that Vice
21 Chair Greenfield with his excellent writing skills can figure out how to say that. I just think
22 that it's not just throwing more policies on. You're sort of looking at it holistically about
23 how they all interact together, so maybe we'd want to just make that clear to the public.

24 Commissioner Moss: Okay, you could also say that about number 4.

25 Commissioner Brown: True.

26 Vice Chair Greenfield: I think that's a great idea. I think maybe it's just more general that
27 we will be reviewing all of the...Do you want to call out specific policies that we will
28 review, or make mention that we'll be reviewing all current policies? And maybe we don't
29 need to say that, since Council has already asked us to come back in August with an update.
30 I totally appreciate the sentiment of what you're saying, and I think we need to do that,
31 and we want to do that. I'm just not quite clear the best way to fit that into a motion, or if

1 necessary.

2 Commissioner Moss: Did we just lose Daren?

3 [technical difficulty with Zoom]

4 Chair Cribbs: Here's Daren back again.

5 Mr. Anderson: So, we were looking at number three and trying to come up with language.
6 Maybe you already came up with it while I was off, but something to acknowledge impacts
7 or considerations to other existing policies? Any suggested language you would like me
8 to do here?

9 Commissioner Moss: I think we also said it applies to 4 as well.

10 Mr. Anderson: Any suggestions for what you would like?

11 Commissioner Brown: I think that's fine, personally. I just think it's important to include
12 that it might not just be a blanket new policy. There might be some adjustment to other
13 ones, in order to make a new policy successful.

14 Commissioner Moss: That wording would be that we will recommend investigation and
15 further review of these existing policies, in number 4. With consideration to further review
16 of existing policies.

17 Mr. Anderson: Change this to "with further review?"

18 Vice Chair Greenfield: I think that's redundant from what's being said before that. We're
19 asking Council to direct Commission and staff to review the policies and return with
20 considerations. I'm not clear what is new being added.

21 Commissioner Moss: I'm thinking that there will be things happening in the park because
22 of the number of visitors that the Council will have no visibility to. So, the Council directs
23 the Commission and the staff to review existing policies with regard to Foothills. And
24 return to Council with considerations. I guess that's okay.

25 Commissioner Olson: Put "consideration of these and other existing policies," or
26 something.

27 Mr. Anderson: I'm sorry. Which one are we editing?

28 Vice Chair Greenfield: I think Council has already directed us to review existing policies
29 and to return to them with an update.

30 Commissioner Moss: Okay.

1 Commissioner Olson: Yeah, I think this works.

2 Chair Cribbs: So, are we ready to have a motion to vote? Would somebody like to make a
3 motion?

4 Vice Chair Greenfield: Sorry. Daren, could you scroll up the 3 again? I'm just trying to
5 read the new part.

6 Mr. Anderson: Sure.

7 Vice Chair Greenfield: Thank you. How about "along with consideration of other existing
8 policies?" Does that convey the same thing and maybe more clearly?

9 Mr. Anderson: I think so.

10 Chair Cribbs: Yeah, that's good.

11 Vice Chair Greenfield: Thank you.

12 Chair Cribbs: I don't hear any more discussion, so would somebody like to make a motion
13 on this?

14 **MOTION**

15 Vice Chair Greenfield: I'll make a motion that we adopt the recommendations as listed for
16 City Council to consider.

17 Commissioner Olson: I'll second.

18 Chair Cribbs: Thank you. Any further discussion? Lam, may I ask you to call for a vote,
19 please?

20 Mr. Do: Yes, of course.

21 Motion passes, 6-0 on roll call vote.

22 Chair Cribbs: Well, congratulations to everybody. Very, very well done. I want to talk a
23 little bit about the Ad Hoc committees and the Liaisons.

24 Commissioner Moss: Wait, can I ask one question about timeframe, because in his staff
25 report he talked about the timeframe being April and July, something like that. Is there no
26 way to speed that up or to get an additional one? Go over the timeline one more time now
27 that we've passed that motion.

28 Mr. Anderson: I think it was that we would try to get this on to the May Council agenda

1 for the motion you just passed, and then we would revisit the overall discussions, the things
2 we've put on our buckets two, three and four, in July for our PRC meeting.

3 Vice Chair Greenfield: Daren, I'm looking at the tentative timeline that you presented. It
4 says, "Council to review the March 23rd PRC recommendation on Foothills Park policies
5 in May, 2021. If City Council discusses the recommendation at the May 3rd meeting and
6 approves an ordinance, it would take effect on June 17th. That's all that's listed specifically
7 in the staff report.

8 Commissioner Moss: So, in May, when it goes to the City Council, if they have issues or
9 problems or they want further research, what happens then? And what about a second
10 reading?

11 Mr. Anderson: If they have additional research they would like done, we'll do as Council
12 directs. The second reading of an ordinance will happen two weeks after, and then it will
13 take effect 31 days after that.

14 Chair Cribbs: Does that answer your question, David?

15 Commissioner Moss: Yes.

16 Vice Chair Greenfield: I also want to add that the timeline has been significantly
17 accelerated for all the work that's been going on here from any project that I've been
18 involved with and seen happen. It's one thing for the Commission to be putting in the
19 work, but it's another thing when we consider the burden this creates on staff. Staff has
20 done an incredible job in keeping up with this, as well as their normal workload and
21 dealing with a pandemic. I feel very comfortable that the timeline that we're suggesting
22 and the pacing is right to give staff a little bit of a breather on Foothills Park, frankly, and
23 then the Ad Hoc can do some work to more thoughtfully do some digging in on things. I
24 support what Daren has suggested.

25 Chair Cribbs: The Ad Hoc may want a little bit of a breather, too, Jeff.

26 Mr. Anderson: Chair, before we move on, if you'd indulge me, I'd just like to acknowledge
27 the Ad Hoc and thank them for their long hours. They were pulling together meeting after
28 meeting, late at night, in the middle of their dinner, and just so gracious with helping. They
29 did a lot of the legwork themselves, and I just want to reiterate my gratitude for all your
30 hard work and efforts. It's deeply appreciated.

31 Chair Cribbs: I think it's appreciated on all sides. That's what I would say, so thank you
32 to everybody.

33 Vice Chair Greenfield: As long as we're handing it out, I think we should include the
34 Rangers and the staff at the open space areas for all their continuous effort in supporting

1 what we're working on as a Commission and also the task forces that are working on
2 different issues, in many cases with support from the Ranger staff.

3 Chair Cribbs: Excellent.

4 **4. Ad Hoc Committee and Liaison Update**

5 Chair Cribbs: Continuing on, on our business, number four has to do with the Ad Hoc
6 committees and the Liaison updates. To refresh everybody's memory, I think it's been
7 three years that we decided that it would be good to have some of the Ad Hoc reports in
8 writing, so a form comes about a week before each Commission meeting. I think some of
9 us scramble to fill in the blanks, and some of us don't get to fill in the blanks. I'm
10 wondering now if we could have a couple-minute discussion about whether that's the best
11 way to convey information around what the Ad Hocs are doing. I think that it's really clear
12 that not only around Foothills Preserve that there's a lot of good work being done at the
13 ad hoc level. I'm not so sure that we might want to consider moving the Ad Hoc reports
14 up in the agenda before we get so tired, and it's approaching 11:00, that we'd like to just
15 have a motion to adjourn. Perhaps – I would look to Daren for thoughts – but perhaps after
16 the Department Report, if the Ad Hoc Reports could go in there and schedule maybe 20
17 minutes and if we don't need it, we don't need it. What would you all think about doing
18 that, or are you comfortable with just filling in the forms and it feels like not paying too
19 much attention to them? Thoughts?

20 Commissioner Olson: I think we lost Daren again. But I think that's a great suggestion,
21 because it kind of would fit with the flow of the staff report as well, where it could come
22 right after and shed some light on some other things that are going on before we get deep
23 in the agenda.

24 Commissioner Moss: I like the idea of a deadline and what Commissioner Olson just said.
25 I think that having a deadline clarifies the thoughts for me. "What did I do this month?" It
26 turns out, there's a lot more than you think, and it sort of goes right over your head, so
27 forcing me to say something does clarify my thoughts. But at the same time, it sure would
28 be nice to have a little bit more time on those things, especially since we have so many Ad
29 Hocs that are not Foothills.

30 Chair Cribbs: Well, I'd like to try to do both. I'd like to have Catherine or somebody send
31 out the form with the date that it needs to be done to be included in the packet, and then
32 I'd like to see if we could move the Ad Hoc reports and take 20 minutes, and put them up
33 after the Department Report before we start on the Business, if that's okay. Daren, are you
34 with us again?

35 Mr. Anderson: I am. My apologies. I don't know what's going on. I missed the last bit on
36 that. Were you suggesting we want to change the agenda so that we have Ad Hoc Report?

1 Chair Cribbs: I was, right after your Department Report, and just allocate 20 minutes. I
2 don't know that this is going to work or not. Allocate 20 minutes for discussion among the
3 Commissioners, so that different people can see and understand what different people are
4 doing in the ad hocs, because I think it's good for everybody to know. And if there are any
5 Liaison Reports at the same time, that could happen there, too. Maybe we need 30 minutes
6 instead of 20 minutes, or maybe we don't need any time and it won't work, but I'd like to
7 try it if that's okay with everybody. Okay, cool. That's good. That's all I have. Were we
8 going to do any Liaison comments today, or not?

9 Mr. Anderson: Up to you, Chair, as far as I'm concerned.

10 Chair Cribbs: Okay, I had just a couple of comments. First of all, I attended the Youth
11 Council meeting last Tuesday. So impressive what our youth are doing in this time of
12 COVID. They've done an amazing study on mental health, a survey that they got 200-plus
13 participants to respond, and they'll be releasing that soon. I invited them to, perhaps in the
14 next couple of months, if we could make a spot for them on the agenda, Daren. It would
15 be really nice. I think, especially coming out of COVID, I continue to be concerned about
16 the effect of COVID on our kids. I know that other people on the Commission share that
17 point of view as well, so that's the Youth Council. I also attended the Parks and Recreation
18 Commission meeting [sic], and they are very graciously going to support everything that
19 Recreation/Community Services wants to do in terms of community activities with their
20 budget, so kudos to them. The last thing is our favorite subject – Aquatics. Coming out of
21 the pandemic now, and hopefully we'll see more people in a lane rather than just one, as
22 the restrictions lift a little bit. More on that later because it is a source of concern. There's
23 not enough water. The City, they need more water time, so those are the three Liaison
24 Reports that I wanted to bring up, and if anybody else has anything to share, let's take a
25 couple minutes and do that.

26 Vice Chair Greenfield: I have a couple items. There is an update for the Tide Gate Ad Hoc.
27 The CEQA Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) is likely to be considered for adoption
28 by the Valley Water board at a meeting on April 27th. Once that is approved, that clears
29 the way for Valley Water to come back to the Parks and Recreation Commission for the
30 Park Improvement Ordinance required for the construction that they're looking to do.
31 Secondly, there is some new signage that Valley Water has been circulating that will be
32 used to highlight the work that's being done at the area and specifically to note the impacts
33 of various trail closures that will be happening periodically over the next few years.

34 Chair Cribbs: Great, thank you very much.

35 Vice Chair Greenfield: Daren, do you have anything to add to that?

36 Mr. Anderson: No, I think you got it, Vice Chair.

1 Vice Chair Greenfield: And then, a brief Field Users Liaison update, I've been working
2 with staff to clarify guidelines to maintain the new field and track at Cubberley Stadium,
3 essentially clarifying guidelines to keep inappropriate items off of these surfaces, as teams
4 are returning to play and using these surfaces. This is a new field and track that hasn't been
5 properly appreciated, given what's happened the past year.

6 Commissioner Moss: Yeah, there are particularly fitness courses where they will drag
7 very, very heavy objects around the field, and I try to keep them off the field and off to the
8 side, but it's been a problem, and also throwing medicine balls and throwing javelin kind
9 of devices. So, it's something that needs to be clarified to people. In addition, there have
10 been classes. Just like with the tennis people, there are classes being taught by people that
11 are not registered to teach, so the ones that are registered have issues that. So, all that goes
12 to Adam. Good old Adam.

13 Vice Chair Greenfield: And Chase Hartmann as well has been working with that.

14 Chair Cribbs: Okay, great.

15 Commission LaMere: Chair, I'd like to say one item about the recreational opportunities
16 Ad Hoc in that we met with Adam Howard and, echoing some of what Daren said, as we
17 move to Orange tier, their team seems ready to pivot and open up more recreational
18 opportunities. That includes different ideas for the upcoming summer, but also seeing a
19 great uptick in field use and field reservations by a variety of sports. Hopefully, we
20 continue on this positive trend with our tiers, and Adam and his team seem ready to
21 respond.

22 Chair Cribbs: Great. Thank you.

23 Commissioner Moss: One thing about Cubberley. The Friends of Cubberley spent a lot of
24 time lobbying during the last election in November the different City Council members to
25 take a more active role in communicating and working with the School District to just keep
26 moving forward, even if we don't have money. Both the City Council and the school
27 district have responded this last week or two there is a subcommittee from the Council that
28 has been formed and a subcommittee on the School District side that has been formed to
29 start working again together on that. One of the catalysts was the PG&E issue, looking at
30 that very empty parking lot at Cubberley that's been empty for years, and saying, "Well,
31 nobody needs this. Let's just do eminent domain and use it for our purposes." I think that
32 was a catalyst on the School District side, that maybe they should keep working towards
33 this goal that we have.

34 Chair Cribbs: David, do you know who is on those subcommittees?

35 Commissioner Moss: I have it somewhere. I think Kou and Cormack and DuBois are on

1 the Council side. I can't remember the two people on the School District side. I wish Keith
2 were here tonight. He would remind me who they are. That just happened this past week-
3 and-a-half.

4 Chair Cribbs: That's good, because one of the things that we probably want to bring up at
5 some point that is very clear in our Master Plan is continuing to look at shared facilities
6 between the School District and the City, and how we can do better than we have in the
7 past, and the fact that COVID does present an opportunity, with all of its challenges. It
8 may be the time to start thinking about having that discussion, so just bring that up. This
9 is great. I think maybe this trial will work out pretty well, to do some sharing with the
10 different Ad Hocs and the Liaisons.

11 **VI. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR APRIL 27, 2021 MEETING**

12 Chair Cribbs: The tentative agenda for April 27, Daren?

13 Mr. Anderson: Thanks, Chair. I think we'll just get together with Chair and Vice Chair
14 and staff and determine that. Right now, I don't have anything earmarked.

15 Chair Cribbs: Okay, I think that's great. Good.

16 **VII. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

17 Chair Cribbs: Before I ask for a motion to adjourn, I would like to say that we should have
18 some sort of acknowledgment of the great work done by the staff and the Ad Hoc
19 Committee and all the Commissioners in having this really good discussion and passing
20 this motion, noting that it is now 8:35, and as many years as I've been on the Commission,
21 I don't think there has ever been an adjournment at 8:35. I think it is well-deserved for
22 everybody on the Ad Hoc and certainly for Daren and Lam. Thanks very much, everybody.

23 **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

24 Meeting adjourned by motion by Commissioner Olson, second by Vice Chair Greenfield,
25 at 8:35 p.m.