

**From:** [D. Muirhead](#)  
**To:** [Parks Recreation Commission](#)  
**Cc:** [Aragon, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Morgan Hill Parks and Recreation Commission Workshop Meeting May 31, 2016 Item #01: master plan review  
**Date:** Monday, May 30, 2016 12:58:05 PM

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Dear Morgan Hill Parks and Recreation Commission,  
Mary Seehafer  
Bill Haskell, Craig van Keulen, LaRene Green  
Ronald Locicero, Richard Scott, Matt Wendt

Comments for the Public Record submitted by  
Doug Muirhead, a resident of Morgan Hill, for:  
Morgan Hill Parks and Recreation Commission Workshop  
Meeting May 31, 2016  
Item #01: master plan review  
Thank you for your consideration,  
Doug Muirhead, Morgan Hill  
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I have two overall comments on what I see as missing components  
at this stage of the process before addressing your policy questions.

Since this BTPR plan consolidates three older plans (Trails, Parks,  
and Community Park), I would like to have seen a table of contents  
and the introductory chapter(s) which tie all these together.

The other missing piece (given my structure/process approach) is  
whether you are retaining the parkland classification system and  
if so what are the definitions.

[question] 1. Level of Service Standards

Do we want to change the way we calculate level of service?

A. Retain 5-acre standard and don't count special use facilities

[comment] I don't see raw acreage as "level of service".

I do think HOA parks, which are not available to all City residents,  
should not be included in any calculation. I would be okay if we  
had targets for parks people could freely use in some way, parks which  
are cost-recovery based, and open space which is "look but don't touch".

[question] What strategies should we employ to increase the City's parks  
and open space lands to meet the standard?

Review all City-owned and public land for additional opportunities.

[comment] What opportunities do you have in mind for "Pursue joint use  
agreements with the County"?

As I mentioned at a Stakeholder meeting, can some undeveloped properties  
in the City be used on a temporary basis for activities if the owner is  
willing and liability can be controlled?

[question] 2. New Parks

[comment] No parkland classification system.

[comment] Look at joint-use: Branch Library, Branch CCC, park.

[question] What areas of town should we target for new neighborhood parks?

[comment] I believe Leadership MH is looking at something next to Central

High and the Historic Society wants to develop Villa Mira Monte.  
Is there a joint-use opportunity here?

[question] 4. Regional Sports and Recreational Facilities

What is the right balance between revenue generation/cost recovery and community amenities for facilities that attract regional visitors and tourists?

[comment] How do you not impact the experience of those that live here or come here for a quieter experience.

[question] 5. Historic Society and Villa Mira Monte

[comment] I think this should be a part of the plan.

[question] 6. Improvements and Changes to Existing Parks and Facilities

[comment] I noticed that there is no water fountain and no seating/tables outside the Aquatics Center.

[comment] I learned about something called a bicycle traffic garden at a VTA BPAC webinar. This is about the size of a tennis court and is a miniature version of street intersections with striping and signage. X-intersections, T-intersections, a European roundabout, and a play space in the middle, where parents can teach children to ride. If located next to a trail, add air pumps, water fountains and park benches where all cyclists on the trail can rest and meet up with friends. For more information: Major Taylor Project (MTP), Cascade Bicycle Club, Seattle Washington

[question] 7. Community and Senior Services

[comment] Yes. How does this fit with WHO Age-Friendly Cities and Older Adult Services recommendations from Advisory Committee?

[question] 8. Outdoor and Mobile Programs

[comment] Bike maintenance classes. Library Bookmobile.

[question] Other comments

[comment] The Bike/Trail map shows some intersection improvements. What are the specific locations and improvements?

Lisa Aragon suggested a BTAC task to identify bike detector loops that are not functioning.

I submitted a City Report a Concern (May 14, 2016, never answered) requesting a map of traffic signals and bike detection loops that residents could use to check to see if the loop is marked and/or is functioning, as well as suggestions for new detectors.

[comment] How will we maintain our bike lanes and trails in a multi-jurisdictional environment? This came about when I reported graffiti on the Main Street overpass at Hywy 101 to MHPD and was told that MH bridges such as Tennant, Dunne, Main, Cochrane belong to CalTrans. I used the link <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/maint/msrsubmit/> to report graffiti and Lisa used it to request sweeping; no obvious response. Other trails and intersections are the responsibility of County.

[comment] The Morgan Hill City Council on June 01, 2016 will approve a lease with option to purchase ten acres of land for sports parking. The staff report never mentions that this is County land. And the lease document is supposed to have a map as Exhibit A but does not. From the staff report: Development of future parks and recreation amenities on the land would be determined and prioritized through the Bikeways, Trails, Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which is currently being updated. The update of this plan is providing for a significant

amount of community engagement.