



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Bikeways, Trails, Park and Recreation Master Plan Workshop

May 31, 2016 | 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Presentation Summary

On May 31, 2016 the Bikeways, Trails, Parks and Recreation Master Plan (Master Plan) project team held a workshop with the Park & Recreation Commission (PRC). The team presented the project status, public input to-date, including a summary of the Community Survey results, and facilitated a discussion to surface the PRC's priorities for the Master Plan. Members of the public were also in attendance at the workshop and contributed their ideas and feedback. A summary of the facilitated discussion is below, organized by topic areas.

Bikeways and Trails

The PRC was in agreement with the potential bikeways and trail routes and treatments presented, as well as the recommendations made by the bicycle advisory group. Questions and comments from the PRC and the public and responses from the project team are summarized below:

PRC INPUT

- There is a need for a connection from Diana to Live Oak High School. This was also recommended by the Bicycle Advisory Group.
- The Bicycle Advisory Group prioritized bike boulevards developed off of main arterials and the PRC agreed.
- The PRC emphasized the following routes:
 - Coyote Creek to Downtown
 - Hill to Main @ Live Oak
 - Multi-use trails on Monterey and Hale
 - Path @ Diana to County Courthouse

- Trail from ponds to aquatic center
- There was a preference for bicycle routes on Monterey and Main over Butterfield and Dunne

PUBLIC INPUT

- The County purchased property around Mud Lake. What is the City's policy on open space and access to open space?
 - The City owns two substantial open space areas near Jackson Oaks and El Toro. They are both hilly with access constraints. They have been looked at separately. This Master Plan will include policies addressing the community's desire for access to regional open spaces.
- Why is there no access to Coe Park?
 - This was included in the 2007 Bike Master Plan and there was resistance from the neighbors in the SE neighborhood.

Parks

Questions and comments from the PRC and the public are summarized below:

Parkland Level of Service Standards

PRC INPUT

- Consider quality vs. quantity
- Account for schools. Consider accessibility, joint use agreements, and organizational access
- Concerning existing parks – look at improved access and programming
- There was general agreement among the PRC to retain the 5 parkland acres/1,000 residents standard and current calculation method if the acreage is serving locals.
 - Special use facilities could be discounted if they are not accessible to locals. Tournament facilities could be counted at 50%.
- There was general agreement among the PRC to leverage joint use agreements with the School District. The public is currently using school fields but there is limited and unpredictable access.

PUBLIC INPUT

- If future HOA parks are going to be required to be 100% publically accessible, who carries the liability? Is there a precedent for this?
- Considering the public's emphasis on open space, should it be calculated at more than 10%? It has a greater value.

New Parks

- Take an opportunity-based approach to park development.
 - PRC prioritized the development of a new 10+ acre community park for future population needs. This was prioritized over extending Community Park into the Corp Yard.
 - This should be a local serving facility.
 - It should be acquired proactively—now is the time.
 - It could be a joint use facility
 - Locate North of Main
1. The commercial area off of Cochrane, between Butterfield and 101 was suggested for developing another indoor recreation facility.

Park Amenities

- Restrooms: Agreement to prioritize Paradise and Nordstrom Parks, with Diana as a slightly lower priority.
- Dog Parks: the need for additional dog park capacity was mentioned.

Facilities

Overarching comments on regional sports facilities

- Need to balance local and regional use
 - How can more efficient maintenance play a role?

- Retain the 60% local/ 40% regional use standard established at the Sports Center. Or establish viable use ratio.
 - It was noted that the Sports Center can't currently meet the 60%/40% use ratio and that maintenance is a challenge.
- Minimize impacts to local residents
 - Avoid land use conflicts (impacts from tournament traffic, etc.)
 - Avoid negative impacts to local residents' parks and rec access
- Sports complex and aquatic facilities are good models
- Work with a franchise such as Big League Dreams to operate potential new facilities?
 - There is a desire to keep local control of the facilities.
- There should be a good return on the investment.

Sand Volleyball

- The PRC supports pursuing developing a sand volleyball tournament complex
- Sand volleyball courts should also be added to parks or schools to help develop interest in sand volleyball players among the Morgan Hill community.

Aquatic Facility

- The PRC agreed that the City should aim to get increased use from the existing aquatic facilities by extending hours.
- A potential joint-use facility with Live Oak HS should be considered.

Diamond Fields

- Manage a new Baseball Complex similarly to the soccer complex.
- Also include multiuse diamond facilities when developing new community park.

Villa Mira Monte

- There was unanimous PRC support prioritizing providing City resources to the Villa Mira Monte property.
- This site should benefit the community as a recreation and park asset
- Make it a destination; event center
- Expand programming; serving schools is important
- Identify opportunities for grants such as OSA funds
- Add language to the Mater Plan regarding the City's role in historic preservation

Changes to existing parks and facilities

- Evaluate the impact of potentially changing the uses at Friendly Inn
- Address senior needs

Senior Services

- The PRC expressed that they needed more information on this topic.
- There was agreement that the City should either expand and become a direct provider of social services or focus on partnerships and collaborate with organizations to expand senior services.
- There is an existing Senior Advisory Committee.
- The County has an Age Friendly City designation and framework that the City is using.

Programming

- Programming ideas and suggestions included:
 - Boot camp in Diana Park
 - Aqua yoga to expand aquatics programming at non-peak hours
 - Senior services in parks
 - Villa Mira Monte could be a location for some of the new mobile programming
 - Volunteer-based programming, especially to meet seniors' needs; promote civic involvement
 - Continue Summer Fun in the Park