



**Parks & Recreation Commission
Special Meeting Agenda
4:00 p.m. – Monday – May 1, 2017
City Council Chambers
809 Center Street**

Call to Order

Roll Call Commissioners: Duncan-Merrell, Evans, Falkowski, Locatelli, Shallberg;
Vice-Chair Brown, Chair Meyers.

Staff: Mauro Garcia, Angela Gray, Carol Scurich, Monica Rubio, Betsy Powers, Leslie Keedy, Noah Downing

Presentations – NONE (*No Action Shall Be Taken*)

Statements of Disqualification

Section 607 of the City Charter states that "...All members present at any meeting must vote unless disqualified, in which case the disqualification shall be publicly declared and a record thereof made."

The City of Santa Cruz has adopted a Conflict of Interest Code, and Section 8 of that Code states that no person shall make or participate in a governmental decision which he or she knows or has reason to know will have a reasonably foreseeable material financial effect distinguishable from its effect on the public generally.

Oral Communications - (*No Action Shall Be Taken*)

Announcements - (*No Action Shall Be Taken*)

Commissioners
Director of Parks & Recreation
Recreation Superintendent Update
Parks Superintendent Update

Approval of Minutes

1. **Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes for 03/06/2017 - Page 4**
RECOMMENDATION: Motion to approve meeting minutes as submitted.
2. **Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes for 04/10/2017 - Page 9**
RECOMMENDATION: Motion to approve meeting minutes as submitted.

Consent Agenda - NONE

The City of Santa Cruz does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. Out of consideration for people with chemical sensitivities, we ask that you attend fragrance free. Upon request, the agenda can be provided in a format to accommodate special needs. Additionally, if you wish to attend this public meeting and will require assistance such as an interpreter for American Sign Language, Spanish, or other special equipment, please call the City Clerk's Department at 420-5030 at least five days in advance so that we can arrange for such special assistance, or email CityClerk@cityofsantacruz.com. The Cal-Relay system number: 1-800-735-2922.

General Business

2. Park Master Plan 2030 Priority Actions: Mauro Garcia - Page 14

RECOMENDATION: That the Parks and Recreation Commission discuss the Parks Master Plan 2030 Actions and provide recommendations on establishing priorities for these Actions and forward to the City Council for consideration.

Information Items – NONE (*No Action Shall Be Taken*)

Subcommittee Oral Reports - NONE

APPEALS - Any person who believes that a final action of this advisory body has been taken in error may appeal that decision to the City Council. Appeals must be in writing, setting forth the nature of the action and the basis upon which the action is considered to be in error, and addressed to the City Council in care of the City Clerk.

Tree Permit appeals must be received by the Parks & Recreation Department Clerk within ten (10) calendar days following the date of the action from which such appeal is being taken. An appeal must be accompanied by a one-hundred dollar (\$100) filing fee.

Agenda Item appeals must be received by the City Clerk within ten (10) calendar days following the date of the action from which such appeal is being taken. An appeal must be accompanied by a fifty dollar (\$50) filing fee.



**Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Action Agenda-Minutes
4:00 p.m. – Monday – March 6, 2017
City Council Chambers
809 Center Street**

Call to Order – 4:00 PM

Roll Call Commissioners: Brown, Duncan-Merrell, Evans, Falkowski, Locatelli, Shallberg;
Chair: Meyers

Staff: Mauro Garcia, Angela Gray, Carol Scurich, Monica Rubio, Tremain Hedden-Jones,
Leslie Keedy, Noah Downing

Presentations – (No Action Shall Be Taken)

Statements of Disqualification

Oral Communications - (No Action Shall Be Taken)

Announcements - (No Action Shall Be Taken)

Commissioners

None

Director of Parks & Recreation

The Department is working with a small group of university researchers and community members to build up the conservation section of the draft Parks Master Plan 2030.

Recreation Superintendent Update

Clam Chowder Cook-Off was a huge success.

Parks Superintendent Update

We've been experiencing rain and intense storms in the past week. Staff is working diligently to keep trails open and parks clear of debris.

Approval of Minutes

1. Joint Commission-Council February 7, 2017 Meeting Minutes reviewed by City Clerk

Commissioner Falkowski motioned to approve the minutes from the February 7, 2017 Joint Council - Parks & Recreation Commission meeting; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Duncan-Merrell. The motion carried by the following vote:

**AYES: Commissioners Brown, Duncan-Merrell, Evans, Falkowski, Locatelli, and Shallberg;
Chairperson Meyers**

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

Commissioner Brown asked to get video, notes and report on the Joint-Session meeting with City Council.

Consent Agenda - NONE

General Business

2. Selection of Officers: Commissioners

Commissioner Duncan-Merrel motioned to nominate Commissioner Meyers for the position of Chair. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Brown, Duncan-Merrell, Evans, Falkowski, Locatelli, and Shallberg;
Chairperson Meyers
NOES: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

Commissioner Falkowski motioned to nominate Commissioner Duncan-Merrell for the position of Vice-Chair.

Commissioner Shallberg motioned to nominate Commissioner Brown for the position of Vice-Chair.

Chair Meyers moved to close the nomination process for both Chair and Vice-Chair; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Shallberg. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Brown, Duncan-Merrell, Evans, Falkowski, Locatelli, and Shallberg;
Chairperson Meyers
NOES: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

The motion to nominate Commissioner Duncan-Merrell for the position of Vice-Chair was held with the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Duncan-Merrell and Falkowski;
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

The motion to nominate Commissioner Brown for the position of Vice-Chair was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Brown, Evans, Locatelli, and Shallberg;
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

3. Park Host Program Proposal for City Parks: Angela Gray

RECOMMENDATION: That the Parks & Recreation Commission 1) review the proposed park host program and provide feedback to staff, 2) discuss future park locations and criteria for qualified applicants, and; 3) recommend that the program move forward to the City Council for approval.

Angela Gray gave presentation to the Commission on the Park Host program proposal.

Duncan-Merrell: Is there a salary for the park host?

Gray: There is no salary. Also, there is no charge for rent or utilities (see second page of the report).

Duncan-Merrell: How will we monitor the monitor at night? Expressed concern for danger and risk.
Gray: Screening process would be put in place. City can cancel contract with the host of duties aren't carried out.
Garcia: Assured solid contributor and host will be in constant contact with PD and staff.

Brown: What is the hosts' level of responsibility with dealing with violators after hours?
Gray: Some limited role but primarily going to be "eyes and ears."
Brown: Mentioned concerns with exposure to risks.

Evans: What are the qualifications? (See page 4, what about being bi-lingual).
Gray: The agreement will outline the legal language for the host program.

Duncan-Merrell motioned to recommend that staff move forward with the Park Host Program Proposal and present the proposal to the City Council for approval; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Shallberg. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Brown, Duncan-Merrell, Evans, Falkowski, Locatelli, and Shallberg; Chairperson Meyers
NOES: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

4. Change in Ordinance 13.08.050 Fires Prohibited-Allowing Gas

Barbeques on City Beaches: Carol Scurich

RECOMMENDATION: That the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend to the City Council that ordinance 13.08.050 be modified allowing gas or butane barbeque grills on city beaches.

Carol Scurich gave oral report on ordinance allowing gas barbeques on the beach.

Shallberg commented that the public can't bring coals but now you can bring a gas barbeque.

Scurich: Special permits will allow the department to establish conditions of use for those permits issued. Other than that, only gas BBQs will be allowed.

Locatelli: Is there a size limit on the propane containers?

Scurich: This has not been determined. However, the department will review and present this information to City Council.

Evans: Will there be appropriate signage posted with rules/regulations?

Scurich: Yes.

Shallberg: Asked to clarify the item as a matter of education or enforcement.

Garcia: We receive many phone calls about whether folks can bring BBQ grills to the beach. It will be a transition as the public becomes better informed.

Meyers: Requested that the department post park and beach rules on the website.

Duncan-Merrell: Commented that the City has an enforcement issue on the beaches and she would like to see interaction by the rangers.

Commissioner Evans motioned to recommend that staff pursue the modification to ordinance 13.08.050 allowing for gas or butane barbeque grills on city beaches to the City Council for approval; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Duncan-Merrell. The motion carried by the following vote:

Brown motioned to add an amendment to include a statement about limits to the size of tanks; the amendment was seconded by Commissioner Evans;

AYES: Commissioners Brown, Duncan-Merrell, Evans, Falkowski, Locatelli, and;

Chairperson Meyers

NOES: Shallberg.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

- 5. Heritage Grant Applications – January 2017 (2) two total requests:** Leslie Keedy
RECOMMENDATION: For the Parks & Recreation Commission to review and approve the following two (2) Heritage Tree Grant applications assisting property owners with heritage tree, or street tree maintenance and preservation.

Leslie Keedy gave presentation on two heritage tree grant awards.

Mr. Ed Sylviera commented in favor of the Heritage Tree Grant program.

Commissioner Shallberg motioned to accept and approve the following two (2) Heritage Tree Grant applications assisting property owners with heritage tree, or street tree maintenance and preservation; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Duncan-Merrell. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Brown, Duncan-Merrell, Evans, Falkowski, Locatelli, and Shallberg;

Chairperson Meyers

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

- 6. Clarification of the Pickleball Recommendations in the Parks Master Plan 2030:** Noah Downing

RECOMMENDATION: Motion to recommend to the City Council that the Parks Master Plan 2030 include (1) an action to support locating a permanent pickleball facility with 6 to 10 courts and (2) identify locations to explore further.

Noah Downing gave a presentation on pickle ball items from the Parks Master Plan.

Evans: Commented that Sgt. Derby Park is a good location; recommendation that the department consider having an additional tennis field to prevent confusion in use.

Falkowski: Commented that pickleball is more accessible by seniors than tennis; Sgt. Derby Park is good suggestion.

Duncan-Merrell: Commented about the pickleball commitment and appreciated demand and suggestions for Sgt. Derby Park.

Commissioner Brown Motion to recommend to the City Council that the Parks Master Plan 2030 include (1) an action to support locating a permanent pickleball facility with 6 to 10 courts and (2) identify locations to explore further and 3) have staff report back to the Commission once all the use issues have been resolved; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Evans. The motion carried by the following vote:

**AYES: Commissioners Brown, Duncan-Merrell, Evans, Falkowski, Locatelli, and Shallberg;
Chairperson Meyers
NOES: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.**

Information Items - *(No Action Shall Be Taken)*

7. Establishing A List of Priority Projects for the Parks Master Plan

Director Garcia summarized priorities for the Parks Master Plan (see score card handout).

Chair Meyers: Suggested of having set discussions on the calendar for residents.

8. Budget Update

Staff will provide the commission a written report on the budget.

Subcommittee Oral Reports - NONE

Adjournment – 6:26 PM

The Parks & Recreation Commission will adjourn from the 03/06/2017 regularly scheduled meeting to the next scheduled special meeting on 04/10/2017 at 4:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers.



**Parks & Recreation Commission
Special Meeting Notes
4:00 p.m. – Monday – April 10, 2017
City Council Chambers
809 Center Street**

Call to Order – 4:02 pm

Roll Call Commissioners: Duncan-Merrell, Evans, Falkowski, Locatelli;
Vice-Chair Brown, Chair Meyers

Absent with prior notification: Shallberg

**Staff: Mauro Garcia, Angela Gray, Carol Scurich, Monica Rubio, Betsy Powers,
Noah Downing**

Presentations – NONE (*No Action Shall Be Taken*)

Statements of Disqualification

Section 607 of the City Charter states that "...All members present at any meeting must vote unless disqualified, in which case the disqualification shall be publicly declared and a record thereof made."

The City of Santa Cruz has adopted a Conflict of Interest Code, and Section 8 of that Code states that no person shall make or participate in a governmental decision which he or she knows or has reason to know will have a reasonably foreseeable material financial effect distinguishable from its effect on the public generally.

Oral Communications - (*No Action Shall Be Taken*)

Mr. Dave Allenbaugh commented on pickle ball court usage.

Ms. Barbara Childs commented on the Draft Parks Master Plan and quoted a Harvard University study.

Ms. Rachel O'Malley commented on Jesse St Marsh.

Community members spoke in favor of the Beach Flats Community Garden.

Announcements - (*No Action Shall Be Taken*) Commissioners

Chair Meyers spoke on trees and trails

Recreation Superintendent

Carol Scurich gave an update on the activity guide, Super Saturday Registration, FOPAR Scholarships awarded and the BBQ Ordinance.

Parks Superintendent

Monica Rubio gave an update about the ice plant eradication on the Westside and emergency street tree removal permits due to the recent storms.

Approval of Minutes

1. Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes for 03/06/2017

RECOMMENDATION: Motion to approve meeting minutes as submitted.

Commissioner Brown requested Chair Meyers to address the minutes from the March 6, 2017 Parks & Recreation Commission meeting at the next Parks & Recreation meeting; Chair Meyers pulled the approval of the minutes.

The item was removed from the agenda and will be taken up at the May 1, 2017 meeting.

Consent Agenda - NONE

General Business

2. City Arts Commission moves to commission a new mural at Scope Park while honoring the past mural and its message of inclusion: Beth Tobey

RECOMENDATION: That the Parks & Recreation Commission review the Arts Commission’s motion to place a new mural at Scope Park.

Beth Tobey commented on the deaccessioning process for art in the City. She also presented a brief history of the mural. There was a unanimous vote on 02/08/2017 by the Public Arts Commission to deaccession the mural and commission a new mural.

Vice-Chairperson Brown motioned to review the Arts Commission’s recommendation to place a new mural at Scope Park; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Evans. The motion carried by the following vote:

- AYES: Commissioners Duncan-Merrell, Evans, Falkowski and Locatelli;**
- Vice-Chairperson Brown, Chairperson Meyers**
- NOES: None.**
- ABSENT: Shallberg.**
- ABSTAIN: None.**

3. Adopt-a-Park Policy and Program Proposal for City Parks, Facilities and Open Spaces: Monica Rubio

RECOMMENDATION: That the Parks & Recreation Commission (1) review the proposed adopt-a-park program and provide feedback to staff, and (2) discuss proposed ordinance adding Municipal Code Section 13.40 to the Santa Cruz Municipal Code; and (3) motion to accept the policy proposal recommendations to City Council.

Monica Rubio presented the parks adoption program proposal.

Commissioner Evans commended the plan and indicated a preference for Option #3.

Vice-Chair Brown commented on the program and asked that staff consider sustainability when they review proposals for park adoptions.

Director Garcia followed with comments on enhancements to existing park spaces and that they provide assistance with new areas on occasion.

Vice-Chair Brown commented on the length of time laid out in the agreement and suggested that staff consider incorporating a sustainability model within the program with the aim of supporting on-going efforts.

Chair Meyers commented on the adequacy of training volunteers and recommend that a three (3) year commitment be included in the agreement rather than one (1) year proposed.

Commissioner Evans motioned that the commission accept the proposed adopt-a-park program proposal and recommend staff bring the proposed ordinance adding Municipal Code Section 13.40 to the Santa Cruz Municipal Code to City Council; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Duncan-Merrel. The motion carried by the following vote:

**AYES: Commissioners Duncan-Merrell, Evans, Falkowski and Locatelli;
Vice-Chairperson Brown, Chairperson Meyers.**

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Shallberg.

ABSTAIN: None.

4. Clarification of the San Lorenzo Park Recommendations in the Parks Master Plan 2030: Noah Downing

RECOMMENDATION: Motion to recommend to the City Council that the Parks Master Plan 2030 include actions to (1) consider a comprehensive renovation of San Lorenzo Park; (2) increase programming, (3) hold more events and concerts in the park, and (4) consider as a location for a permanent or seasonal food truck court.

Noah Downing gave a presentation on reviewing the San Lorenzo Park recommendations included in the draft Parks Master Plan.

Commissioner Evans commented on the possibility of a comprehensive renovation.

Chair Meyers commented on park programming, riparian trees, food truck court and expressed a priority for comprehensive renovation.

Mr. Michael Lewis expressed concerns for food trucks in the park.

Ms. Jean Brocklebank commented on hiking trails and green space.

Mr. Greg Pepping commented on trees and restrooms visibility.

Commissioner Duncan-Merrell motioned to recommend to the City Council that the Parks Master Plan 2030 include actions to (1) consider a comprehensive renovation of San Lorenzo Park; (2) increase programming, (3) hold more events and concerts in the park, and (4) consider as a location for a permanent or seasonal food truck court; the motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Brown. The motion carried by the following vote:

**AYES: Commissioners Duncan-Merrell, Evans, Falkowski, and Locatelli;
Vice-Chairperson Brown, Chairperson Meyers**

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Shallberg.

ABSTAIN: None.

5. Clarification of Recommendations for the Santa Cruz Riverwalk in the Parks Master Plan 2030: Noah Downing

RECOMMENDATION: Motion to recommend to the City Council that the Parks Master Plan 2030 include recommendations (1) to implement the San Lorenzo Urban River Plan as well as stakeholder recommendations developed through the Santa Cruz Riverwalk Summit and subsequent discussions; (2) integrate multi-departmental and agency partnerships while enhancing the department's programming and safety efforts; (3) install or coordinate improvements which include but are not limited to the installation of artwork, site furnishings, infrastructure and recreational amenities.

Noah Downing presented the Santa Cruz Riverwalk recommendations for the draft Parks Master Plan.

Ms. Jean Brocklebank commented on the downtown recovery plan and its application to the San Lorenzo River.

Vice-Chair Brown commented that the draft Parks Master Plan should include recommendations from the City Council River summit.

Commissioner Brown motioned to recommend to the City Council that the Parks Master Plan 2030 include recommendations (1) to implement the San Lorenzo Urban River Plan as well as stakeholder recommendations developed through the Santa Cruz Riverwalk Summit and subsequent discussions; (2) integrate multi-departmental and agency partnerships while enhancing the department's programming and safety efforts; (3) install or coordinate improvements which include but are not limited to the installation of artwork, site furnishings, infrastructure and recreational amenities.; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Evans. The motion carried by the following vote:

**AYES: Commissioners Duncan-Merrell, Evans, Falkowski, and Locatelli;
Vice-Chairperson Brown, Chairperson Meyers.**

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Shallberg.

ABSTAIN: None.

Information Items - (No Action Shall Be Taken)

6. CEQA Process and Relationship to Existing Master Plans for Specific Parks moved to

Discussion of this item was moved in front of item #1 on the agenda by Chair Meyers to accommodate general business items.

Noah Downing spoke on the process for environmental review to include the possibility of hiring a consultant to perform an analysis of environmental factors and potential impacts.

Tony Condotti spoke on the appropriate timing for CEQA feasibility with review of further exploring mountain bike trails.

7. Budget Update –

Angela Gray reviewed and went over the proposed 2018 budget forecasted increase in spending for water and costs for temporary employees. CIP projects funds will be delayed until 2019.

8. Priority Projects Discussion for the Parks Master Plan

Commissioners are to identify top projects for the next three years and bring back for discussion at next meeting.

Commissioner Duncan-Merrell asked that this item be postponed to the next available meeting.

Subcommittee Oral Reports - NONE

Adjournment

The Parks & Recreation Commission adjourned from the 04/10/2017 special meeting at 6:18 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on 05/01/2017 at 4:00 pm at the City Council Chambers.

APPEALS - Any person who believes that a final action of this advisory body has been taken in error may appeal that decision to the City Council. Appeals must be in writing, setting forth the nature of the action and the basis upon which the action is considered to be in error, and addressed to the City Council in care of the City Clerk.

Tree Permit appeals must be received by the Parks & Recreation Department Clerk within ten (10) calendar days following the date of the action from which such appeal is being taken. An appeal must be accompanied by a one-hundred dollar (\$100) filing fee.

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CITY OF SANTA CRUZ PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

DATE: April 25, 2017

AGENDA OF: May 1, 2017

DEPARTMENT: Parks & Recreation

SUBJECT: Park Master Plan 2030 Priority Actions

Recommendation: That the Parks and Recreation Commission discuss the Parks Master Plan 2030 Actions and provide recommendations on establishing priorities for these Actions and forward to the City Council for consideration.

BACKGROUND: The Parks and Recreation Department released the draft Parks Master Plan (PMP) 2030 for public review. The plan includes recommendations for future improvements to the park system and is envisioned as a “living document” that will be updated periodically to help the City be responsive to changing needs and interests of the community. The draft recommendations were formed from community outreach; trends in recreation, direction received from the Parks and Recreation Commission, City Council and Parks Master Plan subcommittee; feedback from staff; and an analysis of existing conditions. On March 2, 2017 the City Council referred the Parks Master Plan back to the Parks and Recreation Commission for further discussing regarding priorities for the City’s parks.

VISION → 7 GOALS → 80 ACTIONS → 143 PROJECTS = ENHANCED PARK SYSTEM

The Department’s Vision can be realized through the implementation of seven Goals that have been identified and described in the draft PMP. The Goals provide high level direction and, if implemented, would direct the Parks and Recreation Department’s in realizing its Vision for the Santa Cruz community. The PMP’s seven Goals are linked through 80 “Actions” which provide more specific areas of focus and the framework for creation and implementation of -capital improvement projects. A large number (143) and wide variety of potential projects were identified during the community outreach phase of the PMP. These projects were evaluated and categorized into one or more of the 80 Actions. Unfortunately, Department resources are not able to support all of the recommended projects over the 2030 timeframe for the PMP. Therefore, staff received direction at the joint City Council/Parks and Recreation Commission meeting of February 7, 2017 to work with Parks and Recreation Commission to recommend priorities with regards to recommended Actions and projects which were identified through public outreach efforts for the PMP.

DISCUSSION: The PMP is organized with seven overarching Goals, 24 Policies and 80 Actions. The 143 projects generated during the PMP process vary greatly in size, complexity and cost, ranging from less than \$100 (signage), to over \$2M (multi-use field) for example. Determining which of the 143 various projects should be of highest priority and which are low priorities is determined on a variety of factors (i.e., budget) which rely heavily on Department staff expertise and planning. Compounding the challenge is the uncertainty of financial resources over the next 15 years, staff availability, changing trends, leadership and demographics. With the Department's assets totaling over 1700 acres of land, it is difficult for Commissioners or members of the general public to be familiar with all aspects of Santa Cruz's park system and to be able to compare 143 projects in an equitable and balanced manner. Department staff is in the best position to delve into the details of specific projects and recommend them for approval by City Council after the PMP has been adopted.

Based on this evaluation it is recommended that the Park and Recreation Commission's leadership and the public's feedback would be most valuable at the higher "Action" level as included in the PMP. In determining which Actions are considered the highest "Value to the Community," and if concurred with by City Council, the Department's staff can then budget accordingly in order to complete the priority Actions and associated projects over the next seven to ten years. Attachment A, lists the 80 Actions and which of the seven Goals they are associated with. Attachment A is intended to be used for a discussion at the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of May 1, 2017.

Expectations of the May 1st Commission meeting are to identify and recommend a minimum of 3 high priority Actions for each of the seven Goals. Additional priority Actions may be identified for Goals which contain a large number of Actions. Staff believe this process will provide guidance to establish and complete projects that will ultimately result in realizing the Department's Vision. These priority recommendations will be forwarded to City Council for final discussion and approval.

Submitted by:

Mauro Garcia
Director of Parks and Recreation

Attachment A: Parks Master Plan 2030 Action Ranking Form

Priority Ranking for Draft Parks Master Plan 2030 Actions	Value to Community (Score Criteria 1 - 4 - 7)
GOAL I. Provide attractive and sustainably maintained parks and facilities throughout the City.	
<p><i>Action 1: Use sustainable landscaping design and maintenance practices to conserve water, prevent erosion and run-off, and provide habitat and food sources.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Investigate and implement the use of recycled water for irrigation. b. Update irrigation systems to be weather-based, monitored, and controlled remotely. c. Replace turf in non-recreational areas with water-conserving landscapes and demonstration gardens with educational displays describing the environmental benefits. d. Select materials and plants to enhance biodiversity and attract pollinators and birds in all parks. e. Increase the number of trees and tree canopy to improve carbon sequestration, reduce heat island effect, and provide habitat. f. Expand the dedication planting program to plant more trees. g. Increase the number of bioswales and continue to implement stormwater erosion best management practices to reduce runoff, erosion, and sedimentation. 	
<p><i>Action 2: Employ energy conserving practices to reduce energy use and produce clean energy.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Install computer controlled, energy-efficient lighting in parks and facilities. b. Install solar products or panels to provide clean energy for lights, new shade structures, or on larger facilities such as Harvey West Pool, the Golf Course Driving Range’s deck, or the Loudon Nelson Community Center. c. Work with the Climate Action Committee and Energy Office to implement the Climate Action Plan’s short-term and long-term projects. 	
<p><i>Action 3: Use water conserving practices to reduce potable water use.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Install waterless urinals and low flow fixtures in parks and facilities. b. Investigate water capture and reuse for large water users such as the DeLaveaga Golf Course. c. Install composting toilets in remote restrooms. d. Install recycled water systems in facilities for watering adjacent landscapes. e. Increase the number of drinking fountains with water bottle fill station features. 	
<p><i>Action 4: Enhance man-made and natural settings when renovating parks with site furnishings, landscaping, pathways, plazas, artwork, and architectural features that are attractive, functional, and add to the use and identity of the park.</i></p>	
<p><i>Action 5: Consider design features and site furnishings that add character and are not replicated in every other community.</i></p>	
<p><i>Action 6: When feasible, replace asphalt pathways with decorative, permeable, hardscaped pathway surfaces.</i></p>	
<p><i>Action 7: Create colorful and artistic expressions of landscape and garden design.</i></p>	
<p><i>Action 8: Consider the function of landscaping in relation to the surrounding setting.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Install native plants in areas abutting open spaces, waterways, or other natural surroundings. b. Install ornamental plantings along streets, at entrances, along primary pathways, around plazas, or other architectural features. 	
<p><i>Action 9: Ensure that new parks have at least one street frontage for increased visibility and access.</i></p>	

Priority Ranking for Draft Parks Master Plan 2030 Actions	Value to Community (Score Criteria 1 - 4 - 7)
<i>Action 10: Work with the Arts Commission to incorporate interactive art and interpretive signage to highlight cultural, art, and historic elements within the parks.</i>	
<i>Action 11: Carefully coordinate the site furnishings, plazas, pathways, passive and active recreational features and spaces, and landscaping to create meaningful experiences, minimize conflicts between new and existing uses, and optimize use.</i>	
<i>Action 12: Increase the number of restrooms at larger or highly utilized neighborhood park facilities.</i>	
<i>Action 13: Increase the number of bike parking spaces throughout the parks system.</i>	
<i>Action 14: Provide an adequate level of service of restroom facilities and renovate existing restrooms to maintain a clean, safe, inviting appearance.</i>	
<i>Action 15: Develop and periodically update a site materials and furnishings palette to ensure continuity in the overall design of each park over time to ensure colors, materials, and styles match as improvements are made. {For example, some parks have four different pathway materials}</i>	
<i>Action 16: Maintain a signage program and other features that help maintain a united identity for the parks system as a whole.</i>	
<i>Action 17: Increase the replacement of the deteriorating concrete garbage cans with decorative or BearSaver cans to improve appearance and increase recycling.</i>	
<p><i>Action 18. Improve access for disabled users.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Consider improvements to increase beach and open space access for disabled users. b. Increase accessible parking near facility and park entrances and trailheads. c. Consider Universal Design principles when locating new recreational facilities to accommodate use by all users. 	
<i>Action 19. Consider the needs of seniors in circulation and park design and expand recreational facilities for seniors.</i>	
<i>Action 20. Provide fitness facilities for all users.</i>	
GOAL II. Provide Ample parks and facilities throughout the City.	
<p><i>Action 1. Continue to seek opportunities to purchase or lease additional parkland. Use criteria for deciding where to purchase property for new park development:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Higher density growth areas. b. Important links in trail system. c. Along the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail or Santa Cruz Riverwalk. d. Underutilized land. e. Neighborhoods that lack existing parks and amenities in close proximity. f. Larger properties that can accommodate a variety of recreational facilities. g. Properties with significant cultural or natural heritage. 	
<i>Action 2. Explore opportunities for partnerships with other agencies to use land outside but adjacent to the City to help fund larger facilities to meet unmet needs.</i>	

Priority Ranking for Draft Parks Master Plan 2030 Actions	Value to Community (Score Criteria 1 - 4 - 7)
<i>Action 3. Acquire new open space when there are opportunities to increase access, improve public safety and management.</i>	
GOAL III. Provide parks and facilities to meet the existing and emerging needs of residents and visitors.	
<i>Action 1. Provide neighborhood park uses including, but are not limited to, off-leash dog use areas, ball fields, skateboard parks, tennis courts, basketball courts, ping-pong tables, playgrounds and tot-lots, climbing and exercise equipment, slack-lining, pickleball courts, community gardens, pump tracks, bocce courts, disk golf courses, horseshoe pits, picnic areas, sand volleyball courts, and other recreational activities when designed to minimize impacts to the surrounding neighborhood.</i>	
<i>Action 2. Considerations in design should include minimizing potential impacts of light spillover, attenuating noise, and providing appropriate view screening.</i>	
<i>Action 3. Conduct an athletic field feasibility study to explore locations and options for additional multi-use field space (i.e. can accommodate soccer, football, lacrosse, rugby, field hockey, baseball, softball, etc.).</i>	
<i>Action 4. Explore or expand more cooperative agreements with the Santa Cruz City School district and UC Santa Cruz for use of sports fields.</i>	
<i>Action 5. Convert grass to synthetic turf and ensure sports fields have adequate drainage and lighting to increase duration of play.</i>	
<i>Action 6. Expand opportunities for informal sports play.</i>	
<p><i>Action 7. Renovate and maintain playgrounds to create more unique and interesting play experiences. Incorporate:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Universal Design principles so parks and facilities are more inclusive and available to all users. a. Natural playgrounds (water, rocks, trees, etc.). b. Interactive playgrounds. c. Multi-dimensional playgrounds. d. Themed playgrounds. e. Sand and water play. f. Play structures that offer more than one type of play and allow children of varying abilities to play together. g. Complementary facilities for adults when locating facilities for their children, such as adult play/exercise equipment near playgrounds. 	
<p><i>Action 8. Assure accessibility and safety on all City playgrounds.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Use playground surfacing that meets criteria of accessibility and safety. b. Consider fencing playgrounds. c. Provide signage about play equipment and safety rules. d. Separate tot and school-age play areas. 	
<p><i>Action 9. Develop, improve, and enhance mountain bike trail system.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Expand trail network and connections. 	

Priority Ranking for Draft Parks Master Plan 2030 Actions	Value to Community (Score Criteria 1 - 4 - 7)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Seek partnerships with UCSC, State Parks, non-profits, and private property owners to improve network connectivity, signage and trail designations. c. Rate trails with difficulty level. d. Consider creating spurs from multi-use trails to reach more advanced features and terrain and accommodate a variety of skill levels. e. Consider providing one area dedicated to technical downhill jumps and obstacles and adequately sign the trailhead with maps and signs indicating features and difficulty level. 	
<p><i>Action 10. Provide bike classes and practice space.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Seek programming and locations to host children’s classes to learn “bike smarts”. b. Increase skills clinics for advanced riders. c. Develop more bike parks, pump tracks, and jump facilities with features and amenities to meet a variety of skill levels. 	
<p><i>Action 11. Improve the Joint Use Agreements with the School District to improve access and more clearly define roles and responsibilities, funding, enforcement, and repair to ensure facilities remain open and in good condition during agreed upon public use times. {The existing agreement is from the 1963}</i></p>	
<p><i>Action 12. Provide activities that improve physical activity and mental health for all ages, abilities, and interests.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Provide outdoor game tables such as chess, checkers, table tennis, or foosball. b. Continue to promote outdoor fitness and health initiatives and increase the distribution and number of outdoor exercise facilities. c. Seek opportunities for community garden space, particularly on the east side of San Lorenzo River and in the Beach Area. d. Seek opportunities and partnerships for use of a walking track. e. Consider locations for adding climbing wall and slack-lining facilities to be placed in equally distributed locations. f. Consider adding a tennis court facility on the east side of the San Lorenzo River. g. Identify a location for a pickleball tournament facility with 6 to 10 courts. h. Increase the number of wildlife interpretive signage and viewing areas. i. Seek opportunities for the installation of a ropes course in a natural or urban setting. j. Consider establishing a drone course. 	
<p><i>Action 13. Prioritize upgrading and optimizing existing community recreational facilities to ensure they attract use from the broader community.</i></p>	
<p><i>Action 14. Capitalize on opportunities for partnerships and joint-use agreements to develop new community recreational facilities when rare opportunities are presented.</i></p>	
<p><i>Action 15. Expand partnerships and concessionaire agreements to allow for outside providers to provide a recreational service on City land.</i></p>	
<p><i>Action 16. Continue to seek community recreational facilities to host community events and programming.</i></p>	
<p><i>Action 17. Consider partnerships to allow for public recreational uses in the permanent Kaiser Permanente Arena during the Santa Cruz Warriors off-season.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Evaluate potential Parks and Recreation programming uses, events, designs, and costs during the planning phases of the arena. 	

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b. Explore mechanisms to facilitate Parks and Recreation Department programming to facilitate multi-purpose sports and events throughout the year.	
<i>Action 18. Identify a fenced off-leash dog use location for the Lower Westside neighborhood.</i>	
<i>Action 19. Consider fencing-in the off-leash dog use area at Ocean View Park.</i>	
<i>Action 20. Consider smaller facilities for dogs less than 25 pounds in weight.</i>	
<i>Action 21. Increase enforcement of off-leash and dog access laws.</i>	
GOAL IV. Protect the City's natural resources, wildlife habitat, and ecologically sensitive areas.	
Action 1. Develop a natural open space restoration work plan.	
Action 2. Encourage volunteer programs to participate in restoration efforts and maintain an adopt a park program.	
Action 3. Increase the number of large clean-up days to remove waste from illegal camping activities.	
Action 4. Protect and improve wildlife and wildlife habitat.	
Action 5. Protect water bodies, including creek systems, riparian environments, and wetlands.	
Action 6. Remove invasive species and encourage planting and restoration of native vegetation.	
Action 7. Reduce erosion and sedimentation.	
Action 8. Consider non-sensitive and degraded areas for future recreational amenities, such as trails.	
Action 9. Provide youth ecological study programs.	
Action 10. Provide more interpretive signage in parks and open spaces and along waterways.	
Action 11. Continue downtown tree walk tour and add signs identifying trees in downtown.	
Action 12. Provide interpretive educational programs led by park rangers.	
GOAL V. Create a safe, clean, and comfortable environment for all park users.	
<i>Action 1. Use defensible space design treatments to deter illegal behaviors.</i>	
a. Increase lighting and visibility in parks and on trails.	
b. Increase visibility into parks by removing low vegetation and taller mounds.	
c. Activate underutilized spaces by providing additional programming and facilities to encourage lawful uses.	
d. Make parks easily navigable with way-finding elements.	
e. Explore fencing, locking, and temporary closures of areas of concern.	
<i>Action 2. Explore rules and policies regarding park uses (drones, off-leash dogs, camping, and closures).</i>	
<i>Action 3. Develop a caretaker or park host program to help care for open spaces and community parks.</i>	
<i>Action 4. Explore partnerships and programs to provide mental health services in parks.</i>	
<i>Action 5. Increase resources to remove trash and debris from illegal camping.</i>	
Action 6. Increase park ranger/police presence and interaction.	
a. More patrolling earlier in the morning and later in the evening.	
b. More alternative methods of patrol (bikes, motorcycles, etc.).	
<i>Action 7. Increase enforcement of park rules.</i>	

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GOAL VI. Encourage the development of an interconnected park system by developing an integrated system of trails.	
<i>Action 1. Integrate and expand existing parks along the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail multi-use path.</i>	
<i>Action 2. Work with Public Works to help connect major parks throughout the City with smaller loop options and spur trails that connect to the bike and pedestrian system.</i>	
<i>Action 3. Promote alternative transportation by integrating bike trails and paths into City street pattern.</i>	
<i>Action 4. Support a Felton-Santa Cruz recreational trail and transportation/commuter corridor.</i>	
<i>Action 5. Develop trailheads to improve access and minimize conflicts between different uses.</i> a. More well signed trails with maps. b. More parking at trailheads.	
<i>Action 6. Partner with organizations and property owners to fund and acquire properties and resolve gaps in the trail system.</i>	
<i>Action 7. Support and help implement and maintain the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail.</i>	
<i>Action 8. Consider opportunities to work with private property owners to increased access from the Carbonera neighborhood to DeLaveaga Park and from Moore Creek to Wilder Ranch and Empire Grade.</i>	
GOAL VII. Establish, maintain, and operate parks, facilities, and programs in a manner that is cost effective and manageable while engaging the community to maximize involvement and support.	
<i>Action 1. Develop maintenance and safety standards for parks and facilities and evaluate staffing levels to achieve goals.</i> a. When acquiring new facilities, consider long-term staffing and maintenance costs. b. Increase full-time staff to improve park maintenance. c. Increase number of park rangers to allow more focus on natural resource management, park maintenance, and interpretation in addition to law enforcement and illegal camp clean-ups.	
<i>Action 2. Work with the Parks and Recreation Commission to establish annual priorities for capital improvement projects that are proposed to City Council.</i>	
<i>Action 3. Coordinate efforts with CA State Park system to ensure quality of maintenance.</i>	
<i>Action 4. Publicize park programs and facilities.</i> a. Continue to utilize website for marketing events, programs, and classes. b. Utilize emerging technologies to publicize events, programs, classes, and park and facility improvements. c. Consider developing an outdoor tour cell phone application where park users can take tours and learn about the history, environment, and things to do and see when they visit each park and open space.	
<i>Action 5. Increase funding for parks.</i> a. Consider a ballot initiative or other alternative financing options to augment parks funding. b. Expand partnerships with private organizations.	

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c. Develop maintenance agreements with other entities.	
<i>Action 6. Develop and implement adopt a park programs and increase volunteer efforts.</i>	
<i>Action 7. Consider the establishment of a parks endowment fund.</i>	
<i>Action 8. Prioritize projects which are economic generators and draw use from residents and visitors.</i>	
<i>Action 9. Utilize and support Friends of Parks and Recreation (FOPAR) to help in their fundraising, scholarship, and funding of smaller special projects to improve the parks system.</i>	

Instructions: Please rate each Action Item as either a 1 (low priority) 4 (medium priority) or 7 (Highest priority) in regards to "Value to the Community". There are no right answers. Use your overall experiences in Santa Cruz to determine how you rate each of the Actions. For example: You are hiking in Pogonip and have realized that you are lost. You walk to a trail intersection and find no signage directing you back to Spring Street where you parked. Not wanting this to happen to any of your neighbors that hike, you assign a value of 7 to Goal VI Action 5.