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**MINUTES  
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING  
ANNUAL RETREAT  
March 20, 2015  
Mitchell Park Community Center  
3700 Middlefield Road  
Palo Alto, California**

14 **Commissioners Present:** Stacey Ashlund, Deirdre Crommie, Jennifer Hetterly, Abbie  
15 Knopper, Ed Lauing, Pat Markevitch, Keith Reckdahl

16 **Commissioners Absent:**

17 **Others Present:** Council Liaison Eric Filseth

18 **Staff Present:** Daren Anderson, Catherine Bourquin, Rob de Geus, Peter Jensen

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

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

22  
23 None.

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25 **III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

26  
27 None.

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29 **IV. BUSINESS:**

30  
31 **1. Review 2014 Parks and Recreation Commission Accomplishments.**

32  
33 Chair Reckdahl: Our agenda today is work. We're going to start with the handout that  
34 everyone should have, the PARC Priorities 2014. This is what we did last year at the  
35 retreat. We're going to walk through these and then say, "Are they still relevant?" and  
36 what the priority is. Prioritization is just so nebulous that I don't want to go into a lot of  
37 detail of highest priority, lowest priority. Of course a priority would be good. At the  
38 end, on the very last sheet, I guess it'd be page 4. We have additional ones that staff has



39 put in through ones that we've identified. If there are any other ones that we've identified,  
40 we can insert those.

41  
42 Commissioner Hetterly: You don't want updates on last year's . You just want status, do  
43 we want to continue it?

44  
45 Chair Reckdahl: Yeah.

46  
47 Rob de Geus: I just want to say a couple of words to get it started as well. First I wanted  
48 to say that I can't be here for the whole retreat unfortunately. There's another event at  
49 Stanford University today.

50  
51 Commissioner Lauing: What about?

52  
53 Mr. de Geus: Project Safety Net. Dr. Shashank Joshi has gathered some of the leading  
54 thinkers around suicide prevention and youth wellbeing from around the country. There's  
55 eight of them, really fascinating individuals. We had about 40 people in this meeting  
56 including some of the key leaders. I had to present there this morning early, but it's a  
57 unique opportunity. It only got put together in the last couple of weeks and that's why it  
58 was a conflict. So I will be getting back there. That's one thing I wanted to mention.  
59 Two, we have some binders for you that you can take home. This is obviously online and  
60 you can access it there too. It relates to the Parks Master Plan. This relates to the data  
61 about the Parks Master Plan and trying to put it in a way that we can access it a little  
62 more easily. Particularly important when we get to prioritization and defining  
63 conclusions and findings, that we can refer back to the data. It's not complete, but there's  
64 a lot that we're gathering. The survey data's in here as well, which we'll be talking about  
65 on Tuesday. You'll have a chance to look at that with the demographic data which is in  
66 your binder. We'll keep adding to that. I wanted to mention that. Also, Keith and I did  
67 work on this as well. He was just talking about it. What I had about the first three pages  
68 of the 2014 Priorities was to think about them, if they are still relevant for this year and at  
69 least actionable for this year in terms of a policy issue.

70  
71 Chair Reckdahl: A good example of what Rob is talking about is the 7.7 acres. It's still  
72 relevant going forward, but we probably won't have any action until the hydrology study  
73 comes back. We're on hold until that comes back. We're going to talk about it as  
74 pending as opposed to completed or ongoing.

75  
76 Mr. de Geus: Review these and have a discussion about what the Commission's thinking  
77 is. There may be differences of opinion about this too. Is it pending? Is it really  
78 relevant? Opinions may vary about that. Talking through those things and if there's  
79 agreement that, yes, still highly relevant, we can still do some work around it this year,  
80 then we move it over to 2015. In thinking about this coming year, you would have

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81 additional interests that you want to bring up and that can be added as well. We do have  
82 lunch here. You didn't see this in advance. One approach might be to get some lunch, a  
83 little bit of a working lunch while everybody reviews this and reads through it before you  
84 really get into it. That could be healthy/helpful.

85  
86 Commissioner Crommie: (crosstalk) hot item.

87  
88 Chair Reckdahl: I think that's a good example. I do want to go through some priority.  
89 The easiest way to prioritize is not by importance, because that's nebulous, but by action,  
90 timeline. The highest actions would be the ones that'll be next for meetings. Ones that'll  
91 be three or four months from now will be low priority. Otherwise we'll be debating  
92 what's more important. Timeline is crisper. We'll think about these in terms of timeline.  
93 Let's take a break, have lunch and be back. Start locking down the topics and then  
94 discuss relevancy on each one. Dog parks, that's highly relevant.

95  
96 Commissioner Hetterly: That's ongoing. Hopefully, we'll wrap up this year.

97  
98 Chair Reckdahl: Do we have an estimate of the next time it goes to the Commission?

99  
100 Commissioner Hetterly: We'll have an update this month. What are we? We're March?  
101 May or June. After the public outreach or did we want to talk to (inaudible). Maybe we  
102 should talk about it before we go to the big public meeting. Maybe April.

103  
104 Chair Reckdahl: When is the meeting?

105  
106 Commissioner Knopper: Next month.

107  
108 Chair Reckdahl: The meeting is ...

109  
110 Commissioner Hetterly: April or May.

111  
112 Commissioner Crommie: Your outreach meeting?

113  
114 Commissioner Hetterly: No, we haven't set an outreach meeting. The question is should  
115 we meet as a Commission before we do that or should we meet as a Commission after we  
116 do that.

117  
118 Commissioner Knopper: My vote is after because we've already talked about it. We can  
119 bring the results and we will have spoken to all the stakeholders.

120  
121 Commissioner Hetterly: Okay, so May, June.

122

123 Chair Reckdahl: Has anything changed since the last time we talked about it?

124  
125 Commissioner Hetterly: We've had a couple of meetings.

126  
127 Chair Reckdahl: Our outlook hasn't changed at all? The things we're considering are still  
128 the same?

129  
130 Commissioner Hetterly: There have been some additional options.

131  
132 Commissioner Knopper: We had a stakeholders meeting.

133  
134 Commissioner Crommie: You should report back to us.

135  
136 Commissioner Hetterly: We are going to, but we won't have a full discussion on it.

137  
138 Chair Reckdahl: It'll just be at the end, an ad hoc update?

139  
140 Commissioner Knopper: Yes.

141  
142 Chair Reckdahl: Let's put down June as the next time we expect to see an agenda item.

143  
144 Commissioner Crommie: What is the meeting called? Is it for stakeholders?

145  
146 Commissioner Hetterly: No, it's for everybody.

147  
148 Commissioner Crommie: Public outreach. You'll notify the whole Commission and we  
149 can go if we want?

150  
151 Commissioner Hetterly: Yes.

152  
153 Chair Reckdahl: The next one is the website. Are we happy with the website or is there  
154 still work to do?

155  
156 Commissioner Hetterly: There's still work to do. It's moving very slowly. I don't think  
157 there's a lot of work to do.

158  
159 Vice Chair Markevitch: I don't think it needs to go to the Commission at all.

160  
161 Commissioner Hetterly: We don't need to discuss it. Once we have it in a form that we  
162 think is final we will let you all know.

163  
164 Vice Chair Markevitch: When its complete?

165  
166 Commissioner Hetterly: When anything changes. Does that make sense?  
167

168 Commissioner Ashlund: Can we declare the revision complete and the maintenance  
169 mode it is no longer actively being redesigned?  
170

171 Commissioner Hetterly: Right.  
172

173 Commissioner Ashlund: You should report on that when we get to that point. The  
174 question is do you want a stake in the ground so we get to that point.  
175

176 Commissioner Crommie: You guys don't feel like you need any more input from us, is  
177 that correct? You pretty much know what you're doing?  
178

179 Commissioner Hetterly: Yeah. The last couple of times we haven't gotten a lot of input,  
180 and I think we integrated it. Maybe we don't have to come back at all.  
181

182 Commissioner Crommie: I emailed you guys separately saying some of those links  
183 weren't working di those get fixed.  
184

185 Commissioner Hetterly: (crosstalk) we aren't coming back. I'm sorry.  
186

187 Commissioner Crommie: It's always informative to go to the website and try to click  
188 around. Occasionally people say, "How do I get in touch with Parks and Rec?" I always  
189 say, "Go to our website."  
190

191 Chair Reckdahl: What's strange right now is when you go into the website, you have to  
192 click agenda. From the home site it's not obvious how to get to the agenda and items.  
193

194 Mr. de Geus: You have to scroll to get to the current agenda which isn't ideal. The most  
195 current thing should probably be high on the page.  
196

197 Commissioner Crommie: Above the pictures. That's the thing (crosstalk).  
198

199 Chair Reckdahl: If you go to the City website and go Parks and Rec, you don't end up at  
200 the Parks and Rec page with the pictures.  
201

202 Commissioner Hetterly: You can say May for the website.  
203

204 Commissioner Ashlund: I can agree with that.  
205

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206 Chair Reckdahl: In May we'll have some type of an agenda item. CIPs. Rob, you were  
207 saying that the CIPs are going to Council.  
208

209 Mr. de Geus: Right now we're in the process of trying to get the CIPs that we submitted  
210 and worked with the Commission on, a sense of priorities and Staff priorities, through the  
211 budget process which will go to the Finance Committee in May and then the City Council  
212 in June. Then we start over and start working on the next five-year plan. It's likely it will  
213 come up again.  
214

215 Chair Reckdahl: That will be the 2017.  
216

217 Mr. de Geus: Right. We start thinking about that in the fall. Last year it was good  
218 actually. After summer, we immediately started engaging in a conversation about the  
219 CIP plan. That's one thing that can happen. Then report back of how the approval  
220 process is going. You can also attend those Council meetings and participate, speak.  
221

222 Chair Reckdahl: The next item will be fall 2015.  
223

224 Commissioner Hetterly: We call this one complete, but then we roll it over to have a new  
225 entry for 2015.  
226

227 Mr. de Geus: It probably should say CIP 2016-2020, then 2017-2021.  
228

229 Chair Reckdahl: Next is community gardens.  
230

231 Commissioner Crommie: Stacey and I did a lot of research on community gardens. We  
232 should probably write that up.  
233

234 Commissioner Ashlund: Come back with recommendations.  
235

236 Commissioner Crommie: Yeah. I had written a letter to send to PAN, Palo Alto  
237 Neighborhoods, leaders to get some feedback, to see who the leaders are in the different  
238 neighborhoods who are interested in community gardens. I think I got my email to go to  
239 the right place. I was a little bit confused on who to send it to. I tried to send it to the  
240 head of the Midtown Neighborhood Association, and it didn't make it to her for some  
241 reason. I might have the wrong email address. Sheri?  
242

243 Vice Chair Markevitch: Sheri Furman.  
244

245 Commissioner Crommie: It didn't get to her. I would like to do that again. That was just  
246 an outreach to try to figure out who the key players are.  
247

248 Vice Chair Markevitch: I'll send (inaudible).

249  
250 Commissioner Crommie: Is she the direct head or is she in a partnership?

251  
252 Commissioner Markevitch: I think it's (inaudible).

253  
254 Commissioner Crommie: Yeah, if you could send it to both of them. I'll get that sent  
255 out. It's important for me to follow up because there is interest emerging from the Master  
256 Plan. I don't have my finger on the pulse as far as level of interest outside of our survey.

257  
258 Commissioner Hetterly: Do you have a timeline to move forward on that?

259  
260 Commissioner Crommie: If I get that from Pat. We already have it written up what we  
261 wanted to send out.

262  
263 Commissioner Ashlund: That's not recommendations. That's an outreach phase.

264  
265 Commissioner Crommie: It's an outreach. Depending on how it goes, we could aim for  
266 the April meeting.

267  
268 Chair Reckdahl: Are we looking at upgrading the current facilities, adding new facilities,  
269 or getting generic input from the users?

270  
271 Commissioner Ashlund: We were still at the input phase.

272  
273 Commissioner Crommie: Input phase. To do our research we at least had cataloged what  
274 we have. We needed to write up a recommendation based on that. It's two arms.

275  
276 Commissioner Ashlund: It's two pieces.

277  
278 Commissioner Crommie: Two pieces.

279  
280 Commissioner Ashlund: Research so far and then community outreach.

281  
282 Commissioner Crommie: And then the community outreach.

283  
284 Vice Chair Markevitch: The outreach might take longer than writing.

285  
286 Commissioner Crommie: Let's say May. If we get it done earlier, that's fine.

287  
288 Mr. de Geus: Deirdre, we had just provided (inaudible). The MIG consultants are  
289 coming back. They'll be here for a few days early next week and obviously for our

290 meeting. We've set up a number of meetings for them to meet with different  
291 stakeholders, and community gardeners is one of them. How many gardeners do we have  
292 at the meeting next week?

293  
294 Catherine Bourquin: He only wanted the gardeners (inaudible).

295  
296 Mr. de Geus: (inaudible)

297  
298 Commissioner Crommie: You contacted people from your known list of gardeners?  
299

300 Mr. de Geus: They're the leagues or the community volunteers that are the liaisons for  
301 each garden.

302  
303 Commissioner Crommie: The problem is we were trying to figure out in the south Palo  
304 Alto where there are no gardens.

305  
306 Mr. de Geus: Yeah, yeah. This may not get at that. I mention it because if we let you  
307 know when that meeting is, would you be available?  
308

309 Commissioner Crommie: I would love to go, yeah.

310  
311 Mr. de Geus: (crosstalk)

312  
313 Commissioner Crommie: Stacy and I could go.

314  
315 Peter Jensen: It's on Tuesday.

316  
317 Commissioner Ashlund: Tuesday, yeah.

318  
319 Commissioner Crommie: Thank you for letting us know. That would be good  
320 (crosstalk).

321  
322 Mr. Jensen: 2:00 to 3:00 at Lucie Stern on Tuesday.

323  
324 Commissioner Crommie: Tuesday, 2:00 to 3:00 at Lucie Stern.

325  
326 Mr. Jensen: In the Fireside Room.

327  
328 Commissioner Ashlund: I'm sorry. What room?  
329

330 Mr. Jensen: Fireside.  
331

332 Commissioner Crommie: It would be nice if you could just forward us the outreach letter  
333 so we know what you said to them.

334 Mr. de Geus: Okay.

336 Commissioner Crommie: Just before we arrive. How you framed it.

338 Chair Reckdahl: Rob, what is the status? We had a CIP in 2015 for community gardens,  
339 the irrigation replacement.

341 Mr. de Geus: That got approved.

342 Chair Reckdahl: That got approved and the work's underway?

343 Mr. de Geus: The replacement irrigation system.

344 Mr. Jensen: Had a community meeting, I don't know now, three or four months ago.  
345 That includes Rinconada, Pardee, and Johnson Park. Going to replace the hose bins. It's  
346 not irrigation. It's just the main water pipe that goes out there. We decided based on  
347 feedback from the meeting to hold off on the work until fall, early fall because that's  
348 when their downtime is for their garden. (inaudible) of the garden to be growing plants.  
349 It's still on and it'll happen sometime in October, when I'm imagining the date will be.  
350 It'll take a little work. Those gardens at Rinconada and Pardee Park are very large and  
351 the amount of piping that has to go into those things is fairly extensive to get back the  
352 network of hose bins that are out there.

353 Chair Reckdahl: Is this something that could take a week to do or a month to do? Any  
354 guess?

355 Mr. Jensen: For the bigger garden, it's going to probably take about three to four weeks  
356 to do for each one. For Johnson Park, it'll probably take a week, week and a half to do.  
357 Most of it is trenching.

358 Chair Reckdahl: In May 2015 we will talk about what we've got on the outreach and then  
359 (inaudible) that. Sterling Canal.

360 Commissioner Crommie: Daren made one point of contact. It was before our joint  
361 meeting with City Council. I forgot if I got back to you in follow up or not. I meant to.

362 Daren Anderson: I don't think you ever did.

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373 Commissioner Crommie: You were so busy on Byxbee Park (inaudible). I'm very  
374 anxious to settle this. Where do we stand on this? A lot of people have had their eye on  
375 that land for both a dog park and community garden for years now. We've never fully  
376 resolved it. It's ongoing.

377  
378 Commissioner Ashlund: We should look back in a couple of months. If everything is on  
379 the table, maybe put it shortly after that. We didn't have much to say. The findings were  
380 pretty limited as far as what to do with the land.

381  
382 Commissioner Crommie: What was decided at the joint City Council meeting was to  
383 bring it up to another level from where we had it. There's really not a lot for  
384 Commissioner Ashlund and I to do on that. Daren, if you wouldn't mind doing that when  
385 you get a chance and getting back to us. Maybe once you pursue that, we can have a  
386 meeting, just the three of us. You could decide to present to the Commission and skip the  
387 ad hoc. Do you want to have it involving that? Daren.

388  
389 Chair Reckdahl: What we have to get is what we're allowed to do.

390  
391 Commissioner Crommie: The tone that I got from the joint meeting was pushing back a  
392 little bit. Not just having Public Works say, "Oh, that's just for us."

393  
394 Mr. Anderson: Utilities is giving a knee jerk reaction to say, "We're not allowing  
395 anything there. We have easements. We have use for the land. That's it. End of story."  
396 That's what the Council's message was, take that (inaudible) and keep working. I'll work  
397 with Rob and see if we can't make a little headway with Utilities and see where we can  
398 go. Under the same kind of rubric of a piece of property we're not quite sure what we're  
399 dealing with, very nearby is a little strip of land that we had once talked about for a dog  
400 park. Same kind of analogy. Utilities say, "No, you can't use that. It's part of our lease.  
401 If you want to take it over, it's \$250,000 a year. You guys can use it for whatever you  
402 want." It's just an aesthetic piece of turf right next to the skate bowl end of Greer Park.

403  
404 Commissioner Crommie: Across the street.

405  
406 Mr. Anderson: Across the street. We said that would be perfect for a permanent dog  
407 park. That would be a great one to bring together. Probably a sit down meeting with  
408 Utilities and we can hash this out.

409  
410 Commissioner Hetterly: Yes, please.

411  
412 Commissioner Crommie: What kind of timeline for that?

413  
414 Mr. Anderson: A timeline, can we check in ...

415  
416 Chair Reckdahl: Let's talk about that later. Sterling Canal, let's talk about a timeline.

417  
418 Commissioner Crommie: That's what I mean.

419  
420 Mr. Anderson: I was going to lump them in (crosstalk).

421  
422 Chair Reckdahl: At the same meeting, yeah.

423  
424 Mr. Anderson: Same meeting. How about in two months I return to the ad hoc? Is that  
425 reasonable?

426  
427 Commissioner Crommie: Okay. You can tell us if you feel like you want to return to us  
428 ...

429  
430 Mr. Anderson: If it's necessary?

431  
432 Commissioner Crommie: ... or bring it to the whole Commission.

433  
434 Mr. Anderson: Okay.

435  
436 Commissioner Crommie: Two months from now, so we've got it on ...

437  
438 Vice Chair Markevitch: June.

439  
440 Chair Reckdahl: June 2015, we will get the information and relay that to the ad hoc.  
441 Lucy Evans.

442  
443 Commissioner Crommie: Stacey, do you want to talk about that one?

444  
445 Commissioner Ashlund: Same status. We need to write up what we have so far and  
446 report back to the Commission. I don't think there's a lot.

447  
448 Chair Reckdahl: Do you have to gather more information or is it just a matter of  
449 assembling what you already have?

450  
451 Commissioner Ashlund: We haven't done any community outreach. We just did our  
452 meeting with John Akin.

453  
454 Commissioner Crommie: We learned a lot of the CIP status. We already reported those  
455 through CIPs.  
456

457 Commissioner Ashlund: I'm wondering if there are any next steps on that.  
458

459 Commissioner Crommie: The next step was on the third CIP that has to do with exhibits.  
460 There's only been \$56,000 or something allocated to it, and that's not enough money.  
461 That is something that John Akin very much wants to work on, to figure out how to do it  
462 properly, how to get more money. He wanted to take a better look at the park system up  
463 there. He wanted to look at the exhibits not just for Lucy Evans in terms of (inaudible)  
464 but to think about exhibits in Byxbee. He wanted to think about the whole area. That's  
465 what he told us.  
466

467 Mr. de Geus: That makes a lot of sense too. In fact, to do it in sequence and the right  
468 way, we would line up the Baylands Comprehensive Conservation Plan, which is now in  
469 the CIP plan to be funded. We're advocates for that. It's in there, so hopefully it will  
470 happen. That would inform exhibits and signage and all sorts of things.  
471

472 Commissioner Crommie: Does it inform that when you're talking about a conservation  
473 plan?  
474

475 Mr. de Geus: I would think, yeah.  
476

477 Chair Reckdahl: That's getting to 2018.  
478

479 Mr. de Geus: It's out of sequence. We'd have to do some exhibit work, because at this  
480 point they're pretty old and out of date.  
481

482 Commissioner Crommie: They're almost unreadable. That's the problem. Maybe just  
483 remove them and leave no exhibits while we're waiting.  
484

485 Chair Reckdahl: It'd be good to have someone that looks at Foothills ...  
486

487 Mr. de Geus: We talked about (crosstalk).  
488

489 Chair Reckdahl: ... Arastradero, and Baylands all at once. If you just look at one, a lot of  
490 the big picture stuff and organization would be repeated by other people.  
491

492 Commissioner Crommie: I don't agree with that. Once you lob them all together, it  
493 won't happen. It's too big. They're totally different. Why do we need them all lumped  
494 together?  
495

496 Chair Reckdahl: Who's going to make the exhibits? Who's going to maintain the  
497 exhibits? All that process is similar. Finding volunteers and finding stakeholders that  
498 want to help us.

499  
500 Commissioner Ashlund: It could be separated.  
501

502 Commissioner Crommie: Do you mean signage? When we talk about exhibits, we mean  
503 educational materials that are posted.  
504

505 Chair Reckdahl: Yes. I'm thinking in those three cases the inside of the three interpretive  
506 centers.  
507

508 Commissioner Crommie: Let's take a step back. You can look at exhibits as just  
509 associated physically with interpretive centers. We have those at each of those  
510 interpretive centers. What John Akin was saying for the Baylands, because we're  
511 developing the park trail system at Byxbee Park and it's a big, sprawled out area, he  
512 wanted to look at that whole system beyond the interpretive center at Byxbee Park. I  
513 think it's a separate entity to look at that. That's unrelated to Foothills and Arastradero.  
514 My sense is that it would fall under its own CIP.  
515

516 Commissioner Ashlund: I'd like to keep it separate for now. It might end up in two  
517 places. As Chair Reckdahl is recommending, it is part of the larger picture. The CIPs  
518 that are in progress there right now including the boardwalk, there is ...  
519

520 Chair Reckdahl: I haven't been able to pull up the CIP. The CIP title says Baylands  
521 Nature Interpretive Center Exhibits Improvement.  
522

523 Commissioner Crommie: We're considering a change on that so it would be broader.  
524 That in and of itself might not be enough money, sitting there right now in that CIP, for  
525 the stated action.  
526

527 Commissioner Hetterly: What is the role you envision for this Commission related to  
528 that?  
529

530 Commissioner Crommie: If we're going to take the broad look, the people who are on the  
531 Byxbee ad hoc would have feedback to give on where we think it would be useful to have  
532 signage.  
533

534 Commissioner Hetterly: Do you think we need an ad hoc for that or is that something  
535 that whatever John Akin comes up with would be presented to the full Commission and  
536 we just review (crosstalk).  
537

538 Commissioner Crommie: That's possible. I'm open minded if that's the direction we  
539 want to go. Either the whole Commission or an ad hoc. We shouldn't drop the ball on it,  
540 because the momentum is there right now. .

541  
542 Mr. de Geus: There's also a lot of momentum for the interpretive Center. We've gotten  
543 pretty clear direction from Council to do some work out there. Get the boardwalk figured  
544 out, whether we can repair it or not, and clean it up and get some of those exhibits  
545 improved. We do want to take action there. If we add additional scope, the concern is  
546 that it starts to take longer. I get why we would do that, because there is connectivity.

547  
548 Commissioner Crommie: Where do we stand on exhibits right now for Byxbee Park? Is  
549 there a separate CIP?

550  
551 Mr. Anderson: No, there is not.

552  
553 Commissioner Crommie: John Akin was saying, "I have to go back and work on the  
554 CIP. \$56,000 is not going to be enough." Is that already approved? Is the money  
555 already allocated to him?

556  
557 Mr. de Geus: \$56,000 is.

558  
559 Commissioner Crommie: Maybe what he was saying is "I'm going to need to do more  
560 than what this money is going to buy." He wants another CIP that he's going to work on,  
561 that's going to address the areas that are not covered by the \$56,000.

562  
563 Council Member Filseth: Can I chime in with a question?

564  
565 Commissioner Crommie: Yeah.

566  
567 Council Member Filseth: Probably Rob ...

568  
569 Commissioner Ashlund: Real quick before you do. When we met with John Akin, his  
570 focus was clearly Junior Museum and Zoo. Is there anybody else on staff that could be  
571 our designated person that would have time and energy to focus on the interpretive  
572 Center?

573  
574 Mr. de Geus: Not really, unfortunately. We used to have staff that that would be their  
575 home, the interpretive center.

576  
577 Commissioner Ashlund: Our hands are going to be tied as an ad hoc if we don't have  
578 somebody on staff who's able to work on it. It seems like a very small percentage of his  
579 time is available.

580  
581 Commissioner Crommie: Yet you have a strong interest in this.

582

583 Chair Reckdahl: Let's go back to Eric.

584  
585 Commissioner Ashlund: Sorry.

586  
587 Council Member Filseth: It's sort of another (inaudible) to the same thing. Read the  
588 question (inaudible). When does the Parks and Recreation Commission anticipate or  
589 target the interpretive center and the boardwalk might be open again?

590  
591 Commissioner Crommie: That should be our first priority. I agree with that. It's tied to  
592 these CIPs. I found it pretty complicated how they were all staged over these multi-  
593 years.

594  
595 Mr. de Geus: It's not really a Parks and Rec Commission question as much as it is a staff  
596 question. There is a policy issue. The policy has been get it done and do it as quickly as  
597 you can. You're going to have to help me, Daren.

598  
599 Mr. Anderson: Sure.

600  
601 Mr. de Geus: The study is the first thing for the boardwalk, because it's in such disrepair  
602 that we need to know what's possible and the environmental piece.

603  
604 Mr. Anderson: For the timing for that, we're interviewing the consultants right now.  
605 That's going to start very, very soon, I'm anticipating. The turnaround time, I would hope  
606 in six months we'd have the recommendation completed and have all the information we  
607 need to know. That would inform the next step for the boardwalk. Do we go for short-  
608 term fixes? I did recommend some medium-term or long-term, full replacement and  
609 (crosstalk).

610  
611 Chair Reckdahl: What was the date on that?

612  
613 Mr. Anderson: These are rough guesses. We're starting soon. I would anticipate in three  
614 weeks we'd have a consultant selected, put him under contract and get going. I would  
615 imagine within six months we'd have something back, completed and ready to go.

616  
617 Commissioner Crommie: We need to say that is for a feasibility study.

618  
619 Mr. Anderson: That is for the feasibility study.

620  
621 Commissioner Crommie: That CIP is a feasibility study on the boardwalk. Once they  
622 complete the feasibility study, you think it might be completed in six months?

623  
624 Mr. Anderson: That's my guess.

625  
626 Commissioner Crommie: Then we have to go and (crosstalk).  
627

628 Mr. Anderson: We would request a new CIP based on whatever that was. I would say  
629 put it in as soon as possible. It would go into the very next CIP budget. Unless it was a  
630 short-term fix and we had existing CIP funds in park emergency. Let's say it was under  
631 \$50,000, I doubt it will but if it were, we could get that going with some existing funds.  
632

633 Commissioner Crommie: It's September before we know what is going to be needed.  
634 You put out the work order, then it's probably not going to be completed until the  
635 beginning of 2016.  
636

637 Mr. Anderson: It depends on what they come back with, but yes.  
638

639 Mr. de Geus: There's only certain periods of time you can work in the marshland, so  
640 you're very restricted.  
641

642 Mr. Anderson: Plus the permitting process.  
643

644 Chair Reckdahl: That could be (inaudible) problems.  
645

646 Commissioner Crommie: (crosstalk) fast track. That one seems to be on the fastest  
647 track; although, doing the feasibility slows it all down, of course, because you have to do  
648 it in two steps. The second CIP is doing some remodeling of the interior space. It was  
649 written somewhat restrictively. Commissioner Ashlund and I asked, "Can you fold in  
650 programming in that building and get a design eye?" John Akin thought he could do all  
651 that under that CIP. Does that one start next year?  
652

653 Mr. Anderson: No, it'll be starting soon.  
654

655 Mr. de Geus: It starts (crosstalk) as well.  
656

657 Commissioner Crommie: The public is really interested in that boardwalk. This other  
658 one's going to flow in there. Because it doesn't require a feasibility study, that might be  
659 completed first.  
660

661 Mr. Anderson: That's right.  
662

663 Commissioner Crommie: That's why it gets ahead; it doesn't require a feasibility. Then  
664 there's this third one on the exhibits. The exhibits out there are in horrible shape. You  
665 cannot read them. They're all worn away.  
666

667 Mr. de Geus: The outside, the exterior ones, right?  
668

669 Commissioner Crommie: Exterior exhibits are in really poor shape. They're a bit of an  
670 embarrassment, the way they look quite frankly.  
671

672 Chair Reckdahl: You're talking at the center or all of Baylands?  
673

674 Commissioner Ashlund: The center.  
675

676 Mr. de Geus: There's four of them.  
677

678 Commissioner Crommie: Just the center.  
679

680 Mr. de Geus: They're on the right lane.  
681

682 Commissioner Crommie: We were discussing this, and we didn't get a good answer on  
683 that. Do you agree, Stacey?  
684

685 Commissioner Ashlund: Right. The question was do we have any authority to say we  
686 need more funding for that third portion of the CIP to do what John Akin recommended  
687 and what we agree with. The funding wasn't allocated, so how do we get in that next  
688 cycle to request the funding to do that?  
689

690 Mr. de Geus: I've talked to John a little bit about this. We have \$56,000. That's good.  
691 We ought to get a designer on board and actually get them on board at the same time  
692 we're thinking about some of this interior work, so they can talk to one another. Maybe  
693 we ask the designer to think in terms of a few different concepts. A concept of what can  
694 be done with \$56,000. What can be done if we do a little more beyond the interpretive  
695 center? Let's start sharing some of those (inaudible) and that could then lead to adding  
696 another CIP or adding to that CIP the next chance we get. It also allows us to do some  
697 things right there in the interpretive center right away.  
698

699 Chair Reckdahl: Do you think it would be useful to have John come in and talk to the  
700 Commission or maybe some other staff to come talk to the Commission in the next  
701 couple of months?  
702

703 Mr. de Geus: Yeah, when we get a little further along.  
704

705 Chair Reckdahl: Do you think an ad hoc would be better, more productive?  
706

707 Commissioner Crommie: We did ask him.  
708

709 Commissioner Ashlund: He agreed to do that, and it would be useful. Somewhere in the  
710 next six months timeframe, he'll know more. We don't have to ...

711  
712 Chair Reckdahl: What is he waiting for?

713  
714 Commissioner Ashlund: For some of the progress to be made on hiring these consultants  
715 to start the feasibility study, to hire the designer. If we were to put him on our agenda to  
716 come back and talk to us in about six months time, it sounds like he would have  
717 something tangible to say and show us and tell us about at that time. If we put him on  
718 sooner, I don't think he'll have anything else to say.

719  
720 Chair Reckdahl: My concern is that CIP for 2017 starts September. If he comes in  
721 September, we may ...

722  
723 Commissioner Ashlund: Miss the cycle.

724  
725 Commissioner Reckdahl: ... miss the train.

726  
727 Mr. de Geus: That would be good timing, September. That would be the first time we're  
728 thinking about what we would want to add to the new five-year plan. This could be part  
729 of that conversation.

730  
731 Chair Reckdahl: When was our first meeting this year, Ed, do you remember?

732  
733 Mr. de Geus: It was in the summer.

734  
735 Commissioner Lauing: July, I want to say.

736  
737 Chair Reckdahl: Do we want it to come back in August so we're ready for the CIP  
738 meetings?

739  
740 Mr. de Geus: We meet in August. (crosstalk) July, August. Whenever we have good  
741 information for a substantive discussion, we ought to ...

742  
743 Commissioner Crommie: I don't know if our Commission wants to weigh in on design  
744 out in the Baylands Open Space Preserve. Are people interested in this?

745  
746 Commissioner Knopper: Can I ask you a quick question? With regard to the feasibility  
747 study, any work or financial investment the City's going to be doing out there, are we  
748 taking into consideration the sea level rise?

749  
750 Mr. Anderson: Mm-hmm.

751  
752 Commissioner Knopper: It seems foolish to put money against something that's going to  
753 be underwater eight years from now.

754  
755 Commissioner Crommie: That's being considered. The way it typically works is we  
756 have someone look at some design and they bring us ideas and then we respond. We  
757 should keep in with that ...

758  
759 Commissioner Ashlund: Cycle. Yeah.

760  
761 Commissioner Crommie: I don't know.

762  
763 Mr. de Geus: We could do that. If you still have the ad hoc committee and they're still  
764 meeting, then there could be additional meetings with the ad hoc committee in advance of  
765 coming to the Commission. I think we'd rather do that.

766  
767 Commissioner Crommie: We'll keep that alive.

768  
769 Commissioner Ashlund: We're putting here coming back to the Commission somewhere  
770 between July and September?

771  
772 Chair Reckdahl: Yes, and the ad hoc will work with the staff to get something ready for  
773 that. The next three are Master Plan. Let's skip over those, because those are obviously  
774 ongoing. If we have time and there's anything we want to talk about, we talk about it at  
775 the end.

776  
777 Mr. de Geus: I have to get going now. I was just looking through the list. Is there any  
778 here that ...

779  
780 Chair Reckdahl: There's one I really want to talk about. That is the rental spaces. The  
781 one time we're talking about would be to hire someone that would be doing that. Lucie  
782 Stern was going to have some sort of manager perhaps hired that would be looking at this  
783 as part of their job as opposed to just a separate project.

784  
785 Mr. de Geus: We have three managers, one at each community center. Cubberley,  
786 Mitchell and Lucie Stern. There's a cohort of three managers within the Recreation  
787 Division. We look to them to do some analysis here. Related to that is the cost of  
788 services study. I wanted to let you know that there is a plan for that to go to Council in a  
789 study session on April 6. That's a couple of weeks away now. It's not coming from our  
790 department. It's coming from Office of Management and Budget. They talk a little about  
791 rental spaces in that report. It came up at a Policy and Services or Finance meeting; I  
792 can't remember which. It's very much related to this cost of services study. There's

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793 discussion about rentals and utilization of space and what we should be doing to  
794 maximize revenue versus maximize access. It's revenue based (inaudible). In that staff  
795 report it does briefly talk about this issue. The cost of services study is the important next  
796 thing that will happen that the Commission might be interested in. One is reading the  
797 report and maybe even attending the study session or assigning it to a Commissioner or  
798 two to attend. Depending on the Council discussion and their direction, we could  
799 agendize it thereafter if the Commission thinks we ought to do that.

800  
801 Chair Reckdahl: When you start the CIP process, one thing that's unique about this is if  
802 we spend money, we make it back. We have this five-year plan; you have to have a good  
803 reason to cut in line and this might be a good reason. If we spend X thousand dollars, we  
804 get more of that back when we either increase rents or decrease vacancies.

805  
806 Mr. de Geus: Case in point is Cubberley Community Center Auditorium which used to  
807 be a library. We're very eager to get that renovated so that it can generate income again.  
808 It generated \$80,000 or so a year before. If it was a little nicer with a little more  
809 technology and other things, it could generate over \$100,000 a year, just that one room.  
810 That's high on the list.

811  
812 Chair Reckdahl: When is that supposed to be renovated? What's the schedule on that?

813  
814 Mr. de Geus: It's a Public Works project. I asked the same question. I don't have an  
815 answer.

816  
817 Commissioner Crommie: My daughter's youth symphony rented that arena for the ice  
818 cream social. I really miss that. We'd probably go back to that.

819  
820 Mr. de Geus: It's a really large space.

821  
822 Commissioner Crommie: It had the kitchen as part of it.

823  
824 Mr. de Geus: There's an old kitchen for a high school, so we want to renovate the kitchen  
825 again. Not as big as it was, because we never really use that huge space, a proper  
826 catering kitchen, something more similar to what we have here at Mitchell.

827  
828 Commissioner Crommie: What's unique about that space that we haven't found since is  
829 you can eat in it when you're doing a performance. The City allowed people to eat in  
830 there at least. Where we are now at the JCC auditorium, we can't do the performance and  
831 eat. It was a nice space.

832  
833 Mr. de Geus: With the libraries here, you can take food and drink of any type upstairs,  
834 downstairs just so you know. I didn't know that. When I heard that, it was "wow."

835  
836 Vice Chair Markevitch: Did you know you can't keep that in the teen room if you don't  
837 have a teen with you?

838  
839 Mr. de Geus: As you should.

840  
841 Commissioner Hetterly: Before you move off the cost of services study, I just have a  
842 quick question on that. That went to Council and we looked at it also over a year ago.  
843 Council gave direction that kicked off a values discussion to reframe the issues in how  
844 the cost of services was presented. Is that what this study session is about, coming back  
845 with the new version or a new approach?

846  
847 Mr. de Geus: It's pretty much the same approach that we talked about as a Commission  
848 when Lam Do came from our department. They're recommending three tiers of cost  
849 recovery. It's a study session, so there's no action. It's essentially the same thing. I don't  
850 recall seeing anything in there that was specific to an outreach plan in the staff report  
851 from OMB interestingly. As soon as it's public, I'll send the link. These reports are  
852 going out almost two weeks, ten days in advance (inaudible).

853  
854 Commissioner Hetterly: Thanks. That'll be very informative to the Master Plan process  
855 as Rob said. We should try to tie them together in the way we think about what we want  
856 to do in the future.

857  
858 Mr. de Geus: As I recall, the staff report does talk about the cost recovery policy for fee-  
859 based classes within Community Services. There's a policy that already exists that the  
860 recommendation is to review that with the public and probably the Commission.

861  
862 Commissioner Crommie: Is there anyone who can volunteer to go to that? I'm out of  
863 town that particular week.

864  
865 Mr. de Geus: 6:00, I think, is when that's scheduled.

866  
867 Vice Chair Markevitch: I can try.

868  
869 Commissioner Crommie: It does sound really important (inaudible). Is that videotaped,  
870 those study sessions?

871  
872 Mr. de Geus: Yes. Is there any other questions that anyone has for me before I leave  
873 about any of these topics or anything else?

874  
875 Vice Chair Markevitch: It was one I was going to add, and I didn't know. We had a  
876 meeting with the high school regarding the most recent suicides. One of the things that

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877 came up was the need for high school students to have a physical outlet. Currently, when  
878 you're in high school, the only thing you have after your two years of PE is to join a  
879 sports team. You can go to practice five days a week and if you're not a good player, you  
880 don't get play time. It's pretty demoralizing. I asked for a show of hands, and over 70  
881 percent of the parents in that room raised their hands and said they would love to have  
882 some sort of pick-up, "play for fun" field space anywhere. It would take a little bit of  
883 negotiation with the high school coaches, but I think we can make it happen. I would like  
884 to (inaudible) if you think it's worthwhile. We would go through the School/City Liaison  
885 Group.  
886

887 Mr. de Geus: I would be very supportive of it. I would love to see the school district  
888 weigh in on that too, though, and provide some more recreational-type offerings on  
889 campus. (crosstalk) the competitive.  
890

891 Commissioner Ashlund: For both high schools (inaudible). Yeah.  
892

893 Mr. de Geus: They have the facilities. We don't have any gyms.  
894

895 Vice Chair Markevitch: I know. They do.  
896

897 Mr. de Geus: We're finding a way to meet the majority of needs. Of course, the needs  
898 are insatiable in some ways.  
899

900 Commissioner Lauing: (inaudible) some people want to practice eight days a week.  
901 (crosstalk).  
902

903 Mr. de Geus: We've defined it, whatever it is, two, three times, whatever it is in the  
904 policy. That policy is meeting the need.  
905

906 Commissioner Lauing: Even without El Camino which is now being open finally.  
907

908 Commissioner Crommie: Along those lines, when we did the Field Use Policy, we said  
909 we'd review it in couple of years. I've lost track of time. Is it time to reconstitute the ad  
910 hoc for review or do you think we can let that go for another year?  
911

912 Mr. de Geus: As part of the Parks Master Plan where field use is going to be one of the  
913 topics that we'll look at, that's a good time, which will be this year. (inaudible) how does  
914 it shake out next to the policy that we have.  
915

916 Commissioner Crommie: We can dissolve that ad hoc. It shouldn't even be on there.  
917 We didn't even do it last year.  
918

919 Mr. de Geus: It's easy enough to set back up.

920  
921 Chair Reckdahl: Byxbee Hills design is the next one.

922  
923 Commissioner Hetterly: That's actually you on that one, not me.

924  
925 Chair Reckdahl: That actually is coming back next month, Daren?

926  
927 Mr. Anderson: Yes.

928  
929 Commissioner Hetterly: Next week or April?

930  
931 Mr. Anderson: April. If the agenda is not packed with Master Plan (inaudible) so people  
932 on the Commission can see it.

933  
934 Chair Reckdahl: 7.7 acres.

935  
936 Vice Chair Markevitch: That's just on hold for now.

937  
938 Commissioner Knopper: I'm not backup, FYI. I'm backup actually on the Master Plan  
939 (inaudible).

940  
941 Commissioner Crommie: That's on hold until the hydrology is complete?

942  
943 Commissioner Knopper: Uh-huh.

944  
945 Mr. Anderson: The next steps is staff will bring it to Council.

946  
947 Chair Reckdahl: The Park Communications Plan. What does that mean?

948  
949 Mr. Anderson: I'm not sure what that one is.

950  
951 Commissioner Hetterly: That was the email list.

952  
953 Mr. Anderson: I think we got that one.

954  
955 Commissioner Hetterly: We had a couple of meetings about it and you worked on it and  
956 Daren worked on it.

957  
958 Mr. Anderson: We brought that in. We've got one that's working. (inaudible)  
959 distribution list.

960

961 Commissioner Lauing: It's a clear victory.  
962

963 Chair Reckdahl: Scott Park. That's complete. There's no outstanding issue on that,  
964 right?  
965

966 Mr. Anderson: The only update is that I'm meeting with the contractor to get that going  
967 on Monday. Good news.  
968

969 Chair Reckdahl: That's going to be completed roughly when?  
970

971 Mr. Anderson: I bet we would start ten days after I meet him on Monday. I'm  
972 anticipating somewhere around 2 1/2 months to get that wrapped up, maybe three.  
973

974 Vice Chair Markevitch: July. Does that include the redo of the asphalt walkway between  
975 the rehabilitation center and the park? It's so torn up with roots right now, they can't get  
976 their wheelchairs and walkers over to the park where they like to sit. They have to go  
977 back out to the sidewalk and in.  
978

979 Mr. Anderson: I'm not sure it does include that. It's one of those things (crosstalk).  
980

981 Mr. Jensen: The cut-through?  
982

983 Vice Chair Markevitch: It's a cut through and it's asphalt.  
984

985 Mr. Jensen: Past that pine tree area?  
986

987 Vice Chair Markevitch: Yeah.  
988

989 Mr. Anderson: (crosstalk)  
990

991 Mr. Jensen: I'll add that to the list of work they do out there.  
992

993 Mr. Anderson: I don't know about that, but I'm going to try. My contract's already  
994 burdened. I've got another CIP with fresh money coming in July 1 where I can do  
995 asphalt. We could knock it out almost concurrently.  
996

997 Vice Chair Markevitch: It's a fairly small area. I just didn't want it to get (crosstalk).  
998

999 Mr. Anderson: You're talking about the one that runs the length of the park, right?  
1000 Between the cul-de-sac and the ...  
1001

1002 Vice Chair Markevitch: It's not the whole length of the park. It's actually (crosstalk) 6-  
1003 feet wide.

1004  
1005 Mr. Jensen: It cuts through the pine tree area. (crosstalk)

1006  
1007 Mr. Anderson: I'm sorry. I thought (crosstalk) the big one. Oh, I'm sorry. That is easy  
1008 then.

1009  
1010 Vice Chair Markevitch: It's tough for the rehab people to get over there.

1011  
1012 Mr. Anderson: Although it might be outside park property. I'll have to double check  
1013 that.

1014  
1015 Mr. Jensen: I'm sure that is.

1016  
1017 Mr. Anderson: I don't think that's ours, but I'll double check.

1018  
1019 Commissioner Hetterly: The bocce ball folks were talking to the department about  
1020 crosswalk upgrades for that connection. Is that included in the project?

1021  
1022 Mr. Jensen: It is.

1023  
1024 Chair Reckdahl: That's very good. I thought that would never get done.

1025  
1026 Commissioner Knopper: That includes the purchase of the bocce ball, right?

1027  
1028 Mr. Anderson: Yeah (inaudible) bocce.

1029  
1030 Commissioner Knopper: I don't want to hear about the bocce ever again.

1031  
1032 Chair Reckdahl: While we're on parks here, Monroe Park, we've passed the PIO, right?

1033  
1034 Vice Chair Markevitch: Where is that?

1035  
1036 Commissioner Hetterly: That's not on there.

1037  
1038 Commissioner Crommie: I'm wondering what's not on the list.

1039  
1040 Mr. Anderson: Peter and I (crosstalk). We're going to get that one started soon.  
1041

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1042 Commissioner Crommie: That's my neighborhood, and people ask me all the time. It's  
1043 turned into a dog park. It's bizarre. It's full of dogs now every evening. I'm hearing all  
1044 kinds of comments about that.

1045  
1046 Mr. Anderson: We ran into some struggles with finalizing the play surfacing. It was a  
1047 requirement of accessibility and ran into conflict with some of the desires of the  
1048 residents. We're very ...

1049  
1050 Commissioner Lauing: Our work is done.

1051  
1052 Mr. Anderson: I think so. We can double check (crosstalk).

1053  
1054 Mr. Jensen: (crosstalk)

1055  
1056 Vice Chair Markevitch: (inaudible) signage in that so that it says you're not allowed to  
1057 run your dog off leash in the park?

1058  
1059 Commissioner Crommie: Every evening it is a dog haven now. I've lived across the  
1060 street from that park for 13 years, and it's never been like that. I'm hearing that the smell  
1061 is horrible. I haven't gone over there.

1062  
1063 Mr. Anderson: Dogs are off leash, right?

1064  
1065 Commissioner Crommie: Yeah, it's full of off-leash dogs. There's a big group of kids ...

1066  
1067 Commissioner Lauing: Send an officer.

1068  
1069 Commissioner Knopper: Yeah, send an officer at 7:00 at night.

1070  
1071 Commissioner Crommie: What do you guys think? I missed out.

1072  
1073 Mr. Anderson: I'll get back to you guys. We need to a little reconnoitering. The  
1074 challenge when we get to the management and efficiency of managing projects through  
1075 the Park and Rec Commission, this is one area where we exceed staff's capability to  
1076 manage all projects at once. Scott, Hopkins, Monroe, El Camino Park are all up in the  
1077 air. Something ends up giving, and this one gave. We need to get it back on the plate  
1078 ASAP. I'm going to do so.

1079  
1080 Commissioner Crommie: Thank you.

1081  
1082 Chair Reckdahl: Once the Master Plan is done, we need to have a discussion about the  
1083 need to hire another planner, at least a consultant for a couple of years. We have the Blue

1084 Ribbon Commission catch-up and we're not catching up anywhere. Once the Master Plan  
1085 is done, we'll have nothing to hold us back and we can address that. Bowden Park.

1086  
1087 Vice Chair Markevitch: You've gone off topic here. Can you (crosstalk).

1088  
1089 Commissioner Hetterly: Who made this list anyway, Chair?

1090  
1091 Commissioner Crommie: He's just doing all the parks, it looks like.

1092  
1093 Commissioner Knopper: Yeah, but they're not on our sheet.

1094  
1095 Vice Chair Markevitch: They're not on our list, so it's confusing to us. Can we do the list  
1096 and then he can (crosstalk).

1097  
1098 Mr. Jensen: Bowden Park has the 90 percent package. It came back from the consultant  
1099 to us to review. It should go out to bid probably next month and start sometime in the  
1100 next few months doing the renovation. I would say by the end of the summer that project  
1101 will be complete.

1102  
1103 Commissioner Hetterly: That's not coming back to us. We're done with that one.

1104  
1105 Chair Reckdahl: Back to the list. Magical Bridge, that is complete. Is there any ...

1106  
1107 Mr. Jensen: Magical Bridge is opening April 18. The ceremony starts at 10:00 a.m. The  
1108 actual ceremony itself is from 10:00 to 11:00, then it goes to 5:00 so there will be things  
1109 within the playground all day long. They're going to have entertainment on the stage.  
1110 They have some children's choirs and a puppeteer and a musician. Every half hour  
1111 someone performs for 15 minutes. That's basically what's happening. I expect the park  
1112 to be completed by the end of next week. That's the schedule.

1113  
1114 Commissioner Ashlund: It shouldn't be open to anybody who's not construction right  
1115 now, right?

1116  
1117 Mr. Jensen: Right.

1118  
1119 Commissioner Ashlund: There definitely are people in there playing with (inaudible) or  
1120 something yesterday when I walked by.

1121  
1122 Mr. Jensen: During the day?

1123  
1124 Commissioner Ashlund: Oh, yeah. Afternoon, between 3:00 and 4:00  
1125

1126 Mr. Jensen: It could be the (inaudible).  
1127

1128 Commissioner Ashlund: Yeah. I just happened to be there. A large, cool, remote-  
1129 controlled thingy. It didn't look like she was working, but she was definitely (crosstalk).  
1130

1131 Mr. Jensen: That might be the Friends aerial photographer.  
1132

1133 Commissioner Ashlund: Okay.  
1134

1135 Mr. Jensen: She brings a drone out every once in a while and shoots the progress. They  
1136 keep updating on their Facebook page, so you can see time lapse.  
1137

1138 Commissioner Ashlund: (crosstalk) pretty substantial. Cool. Thank you.  
1139

1140 Chair Reckdahl: Hopkins Park.  
1141

1142 Mr. Anderson: Hopkins Park is complete. The project's done.  
1143

1144 Chair Reckdahl: Done.  
1145

1146 Mr. Anderson: There's still a little fencing protecting the seed. We seeded the turf rather  
1147 than re-sod. It's growing in and the fence is only to allow the seed to fully establish and  
1148 then it comes down. The rest of the park is open.  
1149

1150 Chair Reckdahl: The next one, ad hocs to develop work plans and timelines.  
1151

1152 Commissioner Lauing: That was an appeal for efficiency from the ad hocs last year.  
1153

1154 Chair Reckdahl: We were worried that ad hocs were just sitting and not doing anything?  
1155

1156 Commissioner Hetterly: Right.  
1157

1158 Commissioner Lauing: That's a pretty good way of saying it, yes. There should be not  
1159 only some specifics that are developed, very specific, but that it should come back to the  
1160 Commission regularly as opposed to just hanging out there. In that case, I would agree  
1161 with the word ongoing that we have on here. We still need to do that.  
1162

1163 Chair Reckdahl: CIPs we already talked about. Field use.  
1164

1165 Commissioner Hetterly: It's going to come back. We're going to talk about it again as  
1166 part of the Master Plan. We don't have an ad hoc on it. These aren't ad hocs.  
1167

1168 Commissioner Ashlund: Right. These are just items.  
1169

1170 Mr. Jensen: (inaudible) will be meeting with field users next Tuesday morning to have a  
1171 conversation with them as well.  
1172

1173 Commissioner Crommie: Is that ahead of a particular brokering period coming up?  
1174

1175 Mr. Jensen: No. It's just to get feedback from them about the status of the fields and  
1176 their input into if we need more and things of that nature.  
1177

1178 Commissioner Crommie: That's good to know. Occasionally I do get people from the  
1179 community saying, "I'm unhappy with the fields." I never know who to send them to. I  
1180 got to (inaudible) touch with you, Daren, as if you're not busy enough.  
1181

1182 Mr. Anderson: Send them my way.  
1183

1184 Commissioner Crommie: They have to go your way?  
1185

1186 Mr. Anderson: They can go to Adam and then we confer. He's doing the brokering, and  
1187 the brokering goes hand-in-hand with maintenance. Too much brokering leads to poor  
1188 maintenance.  
1189

1190 Commissioner Crommie: You're the contact person?  
1191

1192 Mr. Anderson: Yeah. Either way is great. Be glad to address any issues.  
1193

1194 Chair Reckdahl: Feeding wildlife, is that totally done?  
1195

1196 Mr. Anderson: It's totally done, in place and working well improving the situation.  
1197 Several other agencies have contacted me recently to say, "Hey, I really liked what you  
1198 guys did. How's it going? What do you recommend in our situation?" Not that we're a  
1199 leader; we aren't. This has been in place for a very long time for lots of agencies. For  
1200 those that have been in the same situation as us, they're excited that we've taken this step.  
1201

1202 Commissioner Lauing: I was just going to make a comment on this. It's complete, but  
1203 when we do something like this and create an ordinance, that's a new law. It seems like  
1204 at some point in time out there, we should check in and see what's happening. Get  
1205 feedback and see if there's compliance. That doesn't have to be something for us, but it  
1206 would be great if you could collect some points 18 months out and say this is what's  
1207 happening. The underlying issue here, using this as a global example for Eric, is just  
1208 generally there's no enforcement on this almost by intent, because there are not enough of  
1209 these people to go and check if people are feeding ducks. That news gets around. I'm not

1210 sure why we're making ordinances that we're not going to enforce and what's going to  
1211 happen. Just as a general question to be thinking about for ordinances that go before  
1212 Council.

1213  
1214 Mr. Anderson: This is one that we are enforcing. We talk to people everyday about it.  
1215 This is the tool that helps get those noncompliant folks that say, "I don't care. Make it a  
1216 law." It is a law now. We'll see the next time you get a ticket. It's been effective.

1217  
1218 Commissioner Knopper: Have you ticketed anyone?

1219  
1220 Mr. Anderson: No one's been ticketed.

1221  
1222 Commissioner Knopper: There's no more bacon and doughnuts?

1223  
1224 Mr. Anderson: Only when the rangers aren't there. It does still happen. I'm not saying  
1225 that it's cured the problem, but it's much better than it was.

1226  
1227 Chair Reckdahl: The 7.7 acres we talked about already. Arastradero Preserve.

1228  
1229 Commissioner Lauing: That's something that I brought up last year that there just doesn't  
1230 seem to be enough parking ever there. What there is, it's jammed and they're parking  
1231 down the road. An issue there was it is designated a low-impact preserve, so we'd have  
1232 to get almost a legal evaluation first as to what's available. In the short term, you were  
1233 going to try to squeeze in some markers or something. In the longer term, maybe it's part  
1234 of the Master Plan or not. That's where it was left.

1235  
1236 Commissioner Crommie: I just want to hear some clarification on that. During the week  
1237 when I go, I always find parking. During the weekend, it's the big cycling groups who  
1238 come in there and congregate. I'm not sure we should do anything to these big cycling  
1239 groups that are coming from all communities.

1240  
1241 Commissioner Hetterly: (crosstalk) when they come and park there, then people who  
1242 want to use the park can't park.

1243  
1244 Commissioner Crommie: Right.

1245  
1246 Chair Reckdahl: You could put a limit.

1247  
1248 Commissioner Hetterly: If you ride a bike, don't park here.

1249  
1250 Chair Reckdahl: No. A limit as in two-hour limit or whatever.

1251

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1252 Commissioner Crommie: That'd be interesting. If you put a two-hour limit, then they  
1253 would (crosstalk). There's a great place also down the road where that car commuter  
1254 parking lot is at Page Mill and Arastradero. (crosstalk) It's always empty on the  
1255 weekend. It's not that (crosstalk) the week. Can you do a little bit of fact checking on  
1256 trying to understand the parking situation there? Ed, during the week under your  
1257 observations, is it a problem during the week? I haven't. Have you observed that?  
1258

1259 Commissioner Lauing: I've observed it not as bad as the weekends. Sometimes there's a  
1260 couple of spaces. I'm actually stunned sometimes when I'm up there that it's that  
1261 crowded. Amazing.  
1262

1263 Vice Chair Markevitch: We could look at maybe a two-hour parking limit on weekends  
1264 in the Arastradero lot. Not during the week, because that doesn't seem to be a problem.  
1265

1266 Commissioner Hetterly: Is it your sense that bike riders are parked there for a longer  
1267 period of time than park users?  
1268

1269 Commissioner Crommie: Yes, because they congregate. They all bring their cars and  
1270 park. They come and they go on an all-day bike ride. My husband does it, that's why I  
1271 know.  
1272

1273 Commissioner Lauing: Your husband's one of the violators?  
1274

1275 Commissioner Crommie: Not at Arastradero. His group meets at Pete's Coffee or the  
1276 Alpine Inn. They meet at a place where you tank up on coffee before you go, so they  
1277 don't meet at Arastradero. I know those (crosstalk).  
1278

1279 Mr. Anderson: The question would be does that alleviate the problem or are you just  
1280 freeing up new spaces every two hours for a higher percentage of bikers to come in and  
1281 take those spots too. If the issue is we have non-park users using the lot, I don't know  
1282 that necessarily solves your issue.  
1283

1284 Commissioner Crommie: We ought to study it a little bit (crosstalk).  
1285

1286 Commissioner Lauing: I don't think we're going to try to solve it here. The question is  
1287 do we want an ad hoc or do we have any feedback on the legal aspects.  
1288

1289 Mr. Anderson: My assessment of what we'd have to do if you wanted to change the  
1290 status is add more parking. We'd have to do a staff report and go to the Council and  
1291 request them to change that low-impact status to increase the capacity of that parking lot.  
1292 That is not without significant impacts to the land and costs as well.  
1293

1294 Chair Reckdahl: Right now there's a lot ...

1295  
1296 Mr. Anderson: An overflow parking lot.

1297  
1298 Chair Reckdahl: ... that's not used.

1299  
1300 Mr. Anderson: It is used for special events and volunteer programs. Acterra has a little  
1301 base of operation right in that area. It gets used (crosstalk).

1302  
1303 Chair Reckdahl: Could we open that up on the weekends for all?

1304  
1305 Mr. Anderson: Universally regardless of purpose?

1306  
1307 Commissioner Lauing: Yeah.

1308  
1309 Mr. Anderson: The cost of that is then you have no place for your designated volunteer  
1310 programs to park. If it was just universally open on the weekends, it'll get filled.

1311  
1312 Chair Reckdahl: Could we open it on days where we don't expect volunteer programs to  
1313 come?

1314  
1315 Commissioner Lauing: If we give the volunteers (crosstalk) they can put on their cars.  
1316 We're not trying to make this a big ad hoc on this.

1317  
1318 Commissioner Crommie: These are management questions. If we don't want to extend  
1319 it, maybe it can be managed differently. I also think we need more fact gathering on this.

1320  
1321 Commissioner Lauing: Should we make this ongoing and (inaudible) names on there or  
1322 stay with it?

1323  
1324 Vice Chair Markevitch: You could even do a sign saying, "If you're part of the bike  
1325 group, please don't park here. This is for the people who are enjoying the preserve."  
1326 Something simple, low maintenance (crosstalk).

1327  
1328 Chair Reckdahl: People are going to park there regardless unless there's a time limit.  
1329 That would keep them away. Yeah, that means you have a ranger come in every two  
1330 hours and swipe the tires with chalk. If you enforced it for a couple of months, then you  
1331 probably wouldn't have to enforce it after that.

1332  
1333 Mr. Anderson: I don't think I have staff to do that, every two hours to come in.

1334  
1335 Commissioner Lauing: It seems like we are continuing this ad hoc.

1336  
1337 Commissioner Crommie: The ad hoc didn't do any work on that. This is just an example  
1338 of ad hoc that hasn't done anything.

1339  
1340 Commissioner Lauing: It's not technically an ad hoc.

1341  
1342 Commissioner Crommie: No, it's not an ad hoc. Do you want to make it an ad hoc  
1343 (crosstalk)?

1344  
1345 Chair Reckdahl: Could we have Friends of the Park ticket?

1346  
1347 Mr. Anderson: No, we couldn't have them ticket. You could have them do that chalking  
1348 (crosstalk) gross violator who could then get a ranger to come down. Things like that.  
1349 The every two-hour thing on weekends, it's not feasible.

1350  
1351 Commissioner Crommie: We have to study the problem more. I've only seen that  
1352 anecdotally. I don't know.

1353  
1354 Commissioner Knopper: The ad hoc is going to do it. We don't have to talk about.

1355  
1356 Commissioner Ashlund: Is it an ad hoc of one or does an ad hoc need to be more than  
1357 one?

1358  
1359 Commissioner Hetterly: It does not need to be more than one.

1360  
1361 Vice Chair Markevitch: Ed's going to drive a Winnebago up there, take up ten spaces.  
1362 He's just going to spend all day watching who's parking there.

1363  
1364 Commissioner Lauing: And see if it's enforced.

1365  
1366 Mr. Anderson: I could invite you to an Open Space staff meeting. You could sit with the  
1367 rangers and talk it all through, throw out all the different options.

1368  
1369 Commissioner Lauing: It doesn't need to be (inaudible) long we can do it.

1370  
1371 Chair Reckdahl: The other thing I would like to add is at least some benches and/or  
1372 picnic tables up there.

1373  
1374 Commissioner Lauing: That comes under the same question (crosstalk).

1375  
1376 Mr. Anderson: Low impact, yeah. It brings you back to that measure if that's what you  
1377 guys want to pursue.

1378  
1379 Chair Reckdahl: When the kids were young, we didn't go up there because they wanted  
1380 some spot to sit and eat their snacks.

1381  
1382 Commissioner Hetterly: There are a lot of ramifications. I don't know what they are. If  
1383 you eliminate that low-impact preserve designation, then it opens up the park to a lot of  
1384 other stuff that we may not want to open up the park to. The recommendation is not to  
1385 (crosstalk).

1386  
1387 Chair Reckdahl: The low impact, does it specifically say no benches or does it say low  
1388 impact ...

1389  
1390 Commissioner Lauing: I'll investigate that.

1391  
1392 Chair Reckdahl: If it's the management's or the staff's interpretation of low impact, then  
1393 they have some leeway to put a couple of benches here and there. That opens it up to  
1394 Frisbee and a lot of stuff.

1395  
1396 Commissioner Crommie: Is that the designation of Baylands Open Space Preserve? Is  
1397 this our only designated low impact preserve?

1398  
1399 Mr. Anderson: The specific guidance was don't duplicate surrounding areas. Keep this  
1400 as low impact. The small parking was one of the elements. The lack of benches and  
1401 picnics that could turn it more into an urbanized area (inaudible). In the research I did a  
1402 year and a half ago on this, I've got notes from Council meetings from when this was first  
1403 decided. They mentioned picnic tables and park benches there. I would be glad to share  
1404 that with Commissioner Lauing and we can eventually (inaudible).

1405  
1406 Mr. Jensen: I've also had a conversation with Enid Pearson, and she'd like to see some  
1407 benches up there too.

1408  
1409 Commissioner Crommie: As people get older, they do need to stop and rest if they're  
1410 walking. It's absolutely necessary.

1411  
1412 Chair Reckdahl: Crosswalk at Kellogg and Middlefield. Did we do anything on that?

1413  
1414 Commissioner Lauing: No. I think Rob was supposed to consult with Planning and  
1415 Transportation to see if that could get on their list.

1416  
1417 Chair Reckdahl: Is that something that would be Junior Museum and Zoo?  
1418

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1419 Mr. Jensen: (inaudible) the traffic consultant that's doing environmental work is starting  
1420 to do his stuff right now. He keeps sending me questions about parking and stuff over  
1421 there. We should have him study that and make a recommendation on what should  
1422 happen at that intersection. (crosstalk) design the one driveway.  
1423

1424 Mr. Anderson: There's no safe access to the museum there.  
1425

1426 Commissioner Ashlund: Can we put you on that as to staff instead of (crosstalk) as the  
1427 staff person on there.  
1428

1429 Chair Reckdahl: When I go to Lucie Stern in the afternoons, 2:00 or 3:00 in the  
1430 afternoon, if you take a left there, you go through three or four cycles just to get through  
1431 Middlefield and Embarcadero. It's really bad. Satellite parking.  
1432

1433 Commissioner Lauing: Is that the one where Jennifer was supposed to count the buses?  
1434

1435 Commissioner Hetterly: (crosstalk) on here. That was just something we talked about at  
1436 the last retreat, because Council was considering the additional satellite parking shuttles  
1437 in the Baylands near the athletic center and the golf course in that Baylands park. We  
1438 just wanted to pay close attention to it as it moved forward, because we thought there was  
1439 potential for substantial environmental impacts.  
1440

1441 Chair Reckdahl: Is that satellite parking dead or is that still ...  
1442

1443 Commissioner Hetterly: I think it's still moving along.  
1444

1445 Council Member Filseth: I think we've directed staff to go investigate or something like  
1446 that. The previous Council. I also note that the previous Council was split on whether to  
1447 do that or not. Some of the people who voted to proceed with it aren't on Council any  
1448 more. Other people on the Council (inaudible).  
1449

1450 Commissioner Lauing: This item came up from Council Member Schmid last year at the  
1451 retreat to do monitoring. You volunteered to be the one to do the monitoring.  
1452

1453 Commissioner Hetterly: What was going on at the Council?  
1454

1455 Commissioner Lauing: No, what was going on at Baylands. There was a shuttle back  
1456 and forth from Baylands, and he was concerned about that.  
1457

1458 Commissioner Knopper: It could go from Baylands to Arastradero. It can just shuttle  
1459 people, then up to Foothills. You would just make giant triangles with buses.  
1460

1461 Commissioner Lauing: Next item.

1462  
1463 Commissioner Ashlund: What is BAC?

1464  
1465 Chair Reckdahl: Baylands Athletic Center.

1466  
1467 Commissioner Ashlund: Thank you. As far as the crosswalk, are we leaving Lauing on  
1468 that? I'm hearing that. What was (inaudible)?

1469  
1470 Commissioner Lauing: Yes, (inaudible).

1471  
1472 Commissioner Ashlund: The status is?

1473  
1474 Vice Chair Markevitch: Ongoing.

1475  
1476 Commissioner Ashlund: Thank you. Rental space was ongoing as well?

1477  
1478 Vice Chair Markevitch: Mm-hmm.

1479  
1480 Commissioner Hetterly: We're going to tie it together with the cost of service study.

1481  
1482 Commissioner Ashlund: Hetterly, you are on the BAC satellite parking or you're not?

1483  
1484 Commissioner Hetterly: I guess I am, but I wouldn't call it an ad hoc. It's just trying to  
1485 keep abreast of the current issues.

1486  
1487 Commissioner Ashlund: Yeah. This is the follow-up page, not the ad hoc page. Thanks.

1488  
1489 Chair Reckdahl: I would say this is on hold, satellite parking unless Council does more.

1490  
1491 Commissioner Lauing: It's just monitoring the activity.

1492  
1493 Council Member Filseth: It's only monitoring.

1494  
1495 Chair Reckdahl: Monitoring.

1496  
1497 Commissioner Lauing: Being alert.

1498  
1499 Commissioner Hetterly: Monitoring Council Action, I'm not counting cars down at the  
1500 Baylands though traffic is very bad at all hours.

1501  
1502 Chair Reckdahl: City class training PARC.

1503  
1504 Commissioner Hetterly: There was an interest around some Commissioners to tap into  
1505 any kind of issue-specific training that is offered to City staff that Commissioners might  
1506 be able to participate in. Rob would lead on that. I'm not sure where he stands. I bet  
1507 they've seen a lot of email invitations to some of the nonprofit work that they're doing at  
1508 the Community Services Department. I don't know if Commissioners are interested in  
1509 specific types of classes that would be helpful. I think Rob probably stalled out unsure  
1510 about what we would want and how to match it up.

1511  
1512 Vice Chair Markevitch: I'm not understanding why we would be interested in taking  
1513 classes.

1514  
1515 Commissioner Ashlund: I appreciated the nonprofit and fundraising stuff that's come  
1516 along our way. A lot of times when something is going to get funded like Junior  
1517 Museum, like the library, like Magical Bridge, it's private fundraising that augments what  
1518 the City's able to do to fund the project. I'm happy when those things come across. I  
1519 don't know what else we're missing out on, but I like that category. I find that category  
1520 particularly useful. We don't have a replacement on our Commission for Rob. He's now  
1521 in Greg Betts' position and his old position. I don't know if there's anything we can do  
1522 other than keep in touch with our staff person. If there's specific class offerings that we  
1523 want to hear about, we let our staff person know. I don't know that there's a master list  
1524 that the City ...

1525  
1526 Commissioner Hetterly: I think (crosstalk) skills that would be directly related to our  
1527 group.

1528  
1529 Commissioner Ashlund: If this is coordinated at a higher level than staff, somebody who  
1530 oversees training offerings, then we could check that box and get on an email list if we  
1531 choose. That'd be great. How do we know if that exists without Rob here?

1532  
1533 Mr. Jensen: It does exist. There is an email list because we get it all the time in training.  
1534 I could learn how to do the budgeting and purchasing and how to fill out contracts.  
1535 There's all kind of (crosstalk).

1536  
1537 Mr. Anderson: (crosstalk) human resources.

1538  
1539 Commissioner Ashlund: Are Commissioners allowed to monitor that list and see if we  
1540 want to attend things or are those class offerings only for staff?

1541  
1542 Mr. Anderson: I believe it's just internal.

1543  
1544 Commissioner Ashlund: It's not everyone.

1545  
1546 Commissioner Crommie: If there's something you know you're interested in, you can ask  
1547 our staff liaison to let you know.

1548  
1549 Commissioner Ashlund: Exactly. Project Safety Net puts out a lot of training-related  
1550 material. If you're interested in that niche, you follow that.

1551  
1552 Commissioner Hetterly: I don't think we have further work to do on that.

1553  
1554 Commissioner Ashlund: (inaudible) categories of things that we were hoping for training  
1555 on.

1556  
1557 Chair Reckdahl: That's EIR (inaudible).

1558  
1559 Commissioner Crommie: I was the one who suggested that. A long time ago, I emailed  
1560 Karen Holman. Karen Holman had suggested that we might benefit as a Commission if  
1561 we had some rudimentary training on how EIRs work. This came up around the golf  
1562 course EIR which did come under our purview because it had to do with expanding  
1563 playing fields and all these different ideas. Actually Karen Holman had suggested that  
1564 maybe I look into getting some training for the Commission. I followed up with her. I  
1565 wanted to know if the City ran any (inaudible). It turned out they didn't. Karen Holman  
1566 had contact of someone who runs little workshops on this who would come in, if we had  
1567 a two-hour meeting, and would do a workshop for us. Can I just have a show of hands if  
1568 anyone on this Commission is interested in such a workshop?

1569  
1570 Commissioner Ashlund: It's worth some sort of presentation. A two-hour workshop I  
1571 would be interested in or if it was even a presentation at one of our regular meetings, just  
1572 an overview of what it is and isn't. I would welcome something rather than nothing.

1573  
1574 Commissioner Crommie: More like a 30-minute presentation?

1575  
1576 Commissioner Ashlund: Up to two hours.

1577  
1578 Vice Chair Markevitch: Two hours is separate from having a two-hour presentation at  
1579 our meeting?

1580  
1581 Commissioner Ashlund: I would be interested either way.

1582  
1583 Commissioner Crommie: I've been to one of these workshops. I went to it through  
1584 another organization. I found it so useful.

1585

1586 Commissioner Hetterly: Actually everybody should have to do it, everybody on a  
1587 Commission.

1588  
1589 Commissioner Crommie: I'd be willing to follow up. As far as I got was how much time  
1590 does your Commission want to spend on this. I really needed to know that before trying  
1591 to schedule something.

1592  
1593 Mr. Jensen: We could invite someone from the Planning staff to come in and do a 20-  
1594 minute presentation on what the EIR is, what the sections are, what they're looking for  
1595 inside of it, what the process is of how it goes out to the community, and then how it gets  
1596 approved.

1597  
1598 Commissioner Crommie: I don't think you can do that in 20 minutes. My workshop, I  
1599 think, was a four-hour workshop. It doesn't have to be that long.

1600  
1601 Mr. Jensen: They're not going to tell you how to fill out. They're going to tell you the  
1602 section and what it all means.

1603  
1604 Commissioner Crommie: What the language means. It's really good to have some kind  
1605 of introduction for when you're trying to read the literature.

1606  
1607 Commissioner Ashlund: Did you say you had somebody who could offer (inaudible)?  
1608

1609 Commissioner Crommie: Karen Holman gave me a name of somebody, but I dropped  
1610 the ball. Where it ended was how much time does your Commission want to spend on  
1611 this. It comes down to how we want to organize it. I'm hearing today that there is  
1612 interest.

1613  
1614 Chair Reckdahl: What is the threshold for EIRs? How often do we have to do EIRs?  
1615

1616 Mr. Anderson: Not very often for most of our projects. It does come up though.  
1617

1618 Chair Reckdahl: The golf course, we had to do one.  
1619

1620 Commissioner Crommie: We had to do one for the bridge.  
1621

1622 Mr. Anderson: JPA.  
1623

1624 Mr. Jensen: We're doing one for the JMZ and the Rinconada long range plan. (crosstalk)  
1625 five or six specific areas that they study; noise pollution. If they find bones, there's a  
1626 thing on that. Studying the biology of birds as well as what it has to do with the impact.  
1627

1628 Mr. Anderson: Species, flora, fauna, historic resources.  
1629

1630 Commissioner Crommie: Also, in an EIR you have to present alternate plans which is  
1631 really informative for policymaking. There's some pieces of (inaudible) project. I was  
1632 hoping someone from the City did this. If we're doing it privately, then I have to get  
1633 clearance to pay the person. I talked to our staff liaison.  
1634

1635 Mr. Anderson: We have people in our Planning that work on EIRs, but I don't know that  
1636 you would say they were an instructor for it.  
1637

1638 Commissioner Crommie: You'd want to get an instructor who can break it down, give  
1639 you pertinent information efficiently.  
1640

1641 Chair Reckdahl: This person that Karen Holman gave you, is she external to the City?  
1642

1643 Commissioner Crommie: External to the City.  
1644

1645 Chair Reckdahl: Does the City have any training on EIRs?  
1646

1647 Mr. Anderson: Nope.  
1648

1649 Commissioner Crommie: I was surprised by that. The Planning Department people  
1650 come in so knowledgeable. They have already taken their course work on that.  
1651

1652 Commissioner Ashlund: It's a prerequisite for the job.  
1653

1654 Commissioner Crommie: It's a burden to ask a staff person to give a little workshop if  
1655 they're not used to teaching that material. It would be most efficient if we hired someone  
1656 who had experience doing such a thing. What should I do with this?  
1657

1658 Chair Reckdahl: Why don't you talk with Rob and see if he wants to organize a City staff  
1659 EIR training. If they do that, then we could sit in.  
1660

1661 Commissioner Crommie: Beyond our Commission.  
1662

1663 Chair Reckdahl: I can't believe that we would be the only Commission that would be  
1664 interested in this.  
1665

1666 Commissioner Ashlund: Right. Why are you saying it would be a City staff training?  
1667

1668 Chair Reckdahl: Open to staff and Commissions.  
1669

1670 Mr. Jensen: Then the City pays for it, is what you're saying.  
1671

1672 Commissioner Crommie: Clearly it should be beyond us. Do you think the amount of  
1673 time would be a two-hour study session?  
1674

1675 Chair Reckdahl: I don't think I want to spend four hours on it. I'd be willing to do two.  
1676

1677 Commissioner Ashlund: Yeah, yeah. Get some prices and some dates and maybe  
1678 coordinate with Rob in scheduling the time.  
1679

1680 Commissioner Crommie: It's nice to know there's interest.  
1681

1682 Commissioner Ashlund: If we open it up to other Commissions, then we can find out  
1683 how many we need to fill the room to make it worthwhile.  
1684

1685 Chair Reckdahl: Gatekeeper training.  
1686

1687 Commissioner Ashlund: What's that?  
1688

1689 Vice Chair Markevitch: QPR training. How many of you are QPR trained?  
1690

1691 Chair Reckdahl: What is QPR?  
1692

1693 Vice Chair Markevitch: Question, persuade and refer. If someone was thinking of  
1694 suicide. It's a training on (inaudible).  
1695

1696 Chair Reckdahl: I am not.  
1697

1698 Commissioner Hetterly: That is on here because as part of Project Safety Net several  
1699 years ago now, the Commission entered into a Memorandum of Understanding and  
1700 committed to getting all the Commissioners QPR training to be additional adults in the  
1701 community.  
1702

1703 Vice Chair Markevitch: You're trained. I'm trained. Daren and Rob, I think are the four.  
1704 Peter, are you trained?  
1705

1706 Mr. Jensen: I'm not trained.  
1707

1708 Vice Chair Markevitch: It probably doesn't come up in your job too often.  
1709

1710 Commissioner Crommie: Do we get notices of training sessions? I don't recall seeing  
1711 any.

1712 Commissioner Hetterly: There have been a couple of notices of QPR training courses.  
1713  
1714

1715 Commissioner Crommie: Maybe not so recently. I wonder if there was just a push on it  
1716 last year.  
1717

1718 Commissioner Ashlund: There was one very recently that came out through RICA. I'm  
1719 not sure where I saw it. It might have been through Project Safety Net, but there was a  
1720 very recent one that came out.  
1721

1722 Commissioner Crommie: I don't recall seeing them. Are they coming past us as a  
1723 Commission as a whole or is it on separate lists?  
1724

1725 Commissioner Ashlund: That's what I'm saying; I don't remember. I might have gotten it  
1726 just from the Project Safety Net list.  
1727

1728 Commissioner Crommie: What is the timeframe with that training?  
1729

1730 Commissioner Hetterly: It's 1 1/2 hours, 2 hours.  
1731

1732 Vice Chair Markevitch: You can also do it online, but it's better if you do it in-person  
1733 because then you do the role playing aspect that you can't get online.  
1734

1735 Commissioner Crommie: Have either of you used your training since having it?  
1736

1737 Commissioner Hetterly: I have.  
1738

1739 Vice Chair Markevitch: Yeah.  
1740

1741 Commissioner Hetterly: Rather than being on Rob, that's really on every Commissioner  
1742 to just sign up for it and do it.  
1743

1744 Vice Chair Markevitch: You can ask Minka how. She's a good person to start with.  
1745

1746 Chair Reckdahl: PARC website, we talked about that already. Agenda time slots. I  
1747 assume this means trying to keep the meeting to the amount of time that we can spend on  
1748 it.  
1749

1750 Commissioner Hetterly: I'm not sure why that's on here. It's something that we should  
1751 discuss. Here it's not really an issue (inaudible) management (inaudible). One of the  
1752 most challenging things for me as Chair was figuring out how long to designate for a  
1753 particular topic and then moving the conversation along so that everybody who had

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1754 something they wanted to say had an opportunity to say it. There are a lot of different  
1755 parts to that. One is the presenter. If you've got a half-hour slot on your agenda and your  
1756 presenter talks for half an hour, then you're instantly backed up when you have no time  
1757 for discussions. One of the things is to have staff and the Chair work more closely with  
1758 presenters who are on the agenda for a particular month to make sure they know how  
1759 long we want them to speak or we know how long they need to speak, so that we can then  
1760 adjust the discussion time appropriately. Also, if we've got 30 minutes for an agenda  
1761 item for the discussion part of it, that's less than 5 minutes apiece to speak. If one of us  
1762 goes over, then that eats into other people's time. It's important to have everybody be  
1763 respectful of that. Everyone may well have something to say. I heard from several  
1764 Commissioners over the last year that they felt that as time backed up and as we would  
1765 get behind on any particular item, they would forego making comments in the interest of  
1766 moving on the schedule as opposed to saying what they had to say. That's an unfortunate  
1767 outcome. At the same time, there are a lot of times when people have a lot to say or there  
1768 are a lot of issues and the Chair doesn't know how much discussion is coming up. It's  
1769 inevitable that you'll periodically run over. That should be the exception and not the rule.  
1770 I would encourage everyone about not sharing your (inaudible) struggle with that now. It  
1771 would be very helpful to him if Commissioners would come prepared with their  
1772 comments and concerns prioritized so that we can welcome Keith to cut us off as he feels  
1773 necessary to keep the schedule and then come back if time permits. Then you make sure  
1774 you get your top priority issues covered before you get cut off.  
1775

1776 Chair Reckdahl: The other point I want to make is when we ask questions, sometimes  
1777 the answer rambles on. We spend ten seconds asking a question, and it's five minutes  
1778 coming back. We have to be more aggressive cutting them off. If we've got our answer,  
1779 let's move on with the next question. Sometimes they can eat up the time more than we  
1780 do.  
1781

1782 Vice Chair Markevitch: Another piece of this is the agendas. Sometimes they're pretty  
1783 aggressive. You're looking at this going, "This is not a three hour meeting. This is 4  
1784 1/2." To be more realistic in setting what is going to be on that agenda. Sometimes I see  
1785 where we've discussed a month before we're going to do this and this and this. When we  
1786 get the agenda, there's two or three more items that have been snuck in there after we had  
1787 discussed it. It just really frontloads the meeting so we don't have time for that discussion  
1788 piece.  
1789

1790 Commissioner Hetterly: That's definitely true. Unfortunately, that's (crosstalk) because  
1791 we meet once a month. There's a time sensitive issue that needs to come before us, we'd  
1792 rather jam it in and stay up late than not cover it all.  
1793

1794 Vice Chair Markevitch: There's a way around that too. Let's just be realistic and say,  
1795 "Well, this issue has come before us and even though we've discussed it, we're going to



1796 put it on this agenda for the next month. These two have now come up which are time  
1797 critical. Move this one that we discussed to the next month." It's more manageable.  
1798 People get tired as it gets late.

1799  
1800 Commissioner Lauing: (inaudible) I've seen good progress this year is this. If two  
1801 people in the room are talking about something, you can say, "My comments have  
1802 already been heard by my fellow Commissioners," and move on. That's an efficient  
1803 way. You don't have to get your quotes in the paper (inaudible). We're trying to get the  
1804 issues on the table and move on.

1805  
1806 **2. Consider Potential Areas of Focus for 2015.**  
1807

1808 Chair Reckdahl: Let's move on now to Priorities 2015. Everything that we talked about  
1809 is a priority. We've listed at least an (inaudible) date in the next decade for everything.  
1810 That's our priority there. Now other things that we haven't talked about. The Buckeye  
1811 Creek study, we talked about that already. Master Plan and we also talked about the  
1812 Baylands boardwalk.

1813  
1814 Commissioner Crommie: Relative to the Master Plan, we might want to go back to these  
1815 ad hocs that we scheduled to make sure they are being completed or do we need anything  
1816 more. (crosstalk)

1817  
1818 Chair Reckdahl: Let's put the Master Plan on hold. If we get everything else done, then  
1819 we could talk about the Master Plan for a long time. Let's get the other ones done first so  
1820 we feel more free to talk. Does anyone else have things they want to add? I have a few  
1821 things that I want to add.

1822  
1823 Vice Chair Markevitch: Mine was the high school pickup games. (crosstalk) lead on  
1824 that.

1825  
1826 Commissioner Crommie: Daria Walsh when she was on the Commission, she was  
1827 passionate about that too. We never made that much progress on it. Since I've been  
1828 sitting on this Commission, we've talked about wanting something to be available. I'm  
1829 grateful that you're willing to do that.

1830  
1831 Commissioner Knopper: Something that I'm not sure how, as a Commission, we do or  
1832 not do. Something that's definitely on my mind a lot is water conservation and how, as a  
1833 Commission, we can create a communication plan or work along with the City with some  
1834 sort of marketing to get people to stop watering their grass. Just something like create  
1835 some sort of initiative and conversation in the community. I'm not sure if this is the right  
1836 format. Daren and his staff and Peter have to adhere to very strict drought rules at this



1837 point. I feel like there is a way that this Commission could be on the forefront of a  
1838 conversation in the community about it.

1839  
1840 Vice Chair Markevitch: I'm not sure it's in our purview. It's coming through the Utilities.  
1841 They're going to start fining you if you keep doing what you're doing. Your water rates  
1842 are going to go up. They just had some new guidelines come through the County that are  
1843 pretty strict. I don't think it's our problem.

1844  
1845 Chair Reckdahl: The only aspect that is our problem is from the park use, whether it be  
1846 the golf course or the parks. If there's places that we could reduce water, then that's  
1847 (crosstalk).

1848  
1849 Commissioner Lauing: We talked last year, I think it might have been at the retreat,  
1850 about should we more or less intentionally let some areas go brown to demonstrate that  
1851 parks were fine. The feedback was the cost to replace that stuff is prohibitive compared  
1852 to a little bit more cost for water, just on a cost basis.

1853  
1854 Mr. Anderson: On some areas, that's for sure. It'd be a commitment to say we're going to  
1855 let this go. We wouldn't just let it go brown. Most likely staff would sod cut and put  
1856 down nice- looking mulch. We'd never have to irrigate it again except for the (inaudible).  
1857 Another option is native plant landscaping. There are investments associated with those  
1858 transformations. Just letting it go brown is less likely. It usually will become a weed  
1859 issue. If you don't water it, then you have nothing but 3-foot tall daisies and other weeds.

1860  
1861 Commissioner Lauing: I brought that up for the same reason. It was a symbol because  
1862 we can only do stuff in parks, but it might help overall.

1863  
1864 Commissioner Knopper: That's what I mean, lead by example.

1865  
1866 Commissioner Lauing: You gave us a good scientific answer as to why that (inaudible).

1867  
1868 Mr. Anderson: We are prioritizing little landscaped areas, unnecessary aesthetic turf, that  
1869 are on our to-do list that eventually transform. Some of it could call for a little public  
1870 outreach. There'd be a substantive change. As you drive down Embarcadero Road,  
1871 there's an eighth of an acre of turf there, a tiny section of turf, that you could change. It  
1872 doesn't need to be turf. People would say, "Wait a minute. What happened to our grass?"  
1873 If the Commission wanted to be involved, maybe we just give it to the Commission and  
1874 we can invite stakeholders. I don't know. Peter and I have talked about this a lot.

1875  
1876 Mr. Jensen: I try to cut down turf where it's not useable. Pardee Park, I think we cut a lot  
1877 of it out of there. Cogswell Plaza, that was one of the reasons we put the seating area

1878 there. Every time we renovate a park, we're looking at those areas of turf that don't make  
1879 sense as far as activity goes and trying to limit them.

1880  
1881 Chair Reckdahl: In Bowden Park, that grass that's on Alma, the long-term plan is to get  
1882 rid of that grass.

1883  
1884 Mr. Jensen: Yes. Our idea would be to have a tree grow in there, a native tree oak stand,  
1885 then the grass would eventually go away. It would be removed.

1886  
1887 Chair Reckdahl: The plan is to establish the trees.

1888  
1889 Mr. Jensen: Right. The transition is not as fast. It's more in keeping with the transition  
1890 that our society's on in general. It's not a fast lane, but it will eventually be that way.

1891  
1892 Mr. Anderson: I have a suggestion for the Commission to consider. Much like when dog  
1893 issues first popped saying, "We're underserved," every renovation was asked to look,  
1894 "Could you squeeze a dog park in here?" Perhaps a part of very park presentation where  
1895 we're doing a CIP, there's an element that says water conservation as a subheading of the  
1896 staff report. We can double check what has been addressed regarding water  
1897 conservation. It's all summarized. You evaluate the plan.

1898  
1899 Vice Chair Markevitch: That's good.

1900  
1901 Mr. Jensen: I have all the background work to figure out how much water we save.  
1902 Technically it's never published anywhere. I just have an email that I send to someone.  
1903 Brad says one time a year at a Council meeting that we've saved so many gallons of  
1904 water. It's not tied to anything.

1905  
1906 Commissioner Knopper: To your point, part of getting people to stop watering their  
1907 sidewalks, at least be more efficient. If you're going to have the sprinklers on, fix them  
1908 so you're not watering the street in front of your home. If the City is communicating,  
1909 "This is what we're doing. This is part of our planning process. This is where we've  
1910 changed the flora of our parks." Maybe people will wake up and say, "Wait. I should  
1911 maybe rip out my grass and put in native plantings."

1912  
1913 Mr. Jensen: Again, our most efficient mailer is the utility bill, which I know doesn't go to  
1914 everyone. If you did a PR thing twice a year or once a year that stated what the City was  
1915 doing to reduce water, just as a way to update people, it might spark them to say, "Oh, we  
1916 can do this too."

1917  
1918 Commissioner Crommie: It does go to everyone actually. Those people on auto pay  
1919 don't always open them. Everyone does get one.

1920  
1921 Mr. Jensen: The cost efficiency of sending that out. Utilities is paying to send the mailer  
1922 out to the whole community.

1923  
1924 Commissioner Ashlund: They've got a huge public awareness campaign ongoing now.

1925  
1926 Commissioner Knopper: We do auto pay, so I don't (crosstalk).

1927  
1928 Commissioner Crommie: I know. That's what I'm saying. I collect them.

1929  
1930 Vice Chair Markevitch: It would be more effective, that messaging that Abbie just said,  
1931 as opposed to what you get now which is, "Oh, you're almost as good as your neighbors  
1932 in water conservation."

1933  
1934 Commissioner Knopper: The shaming.

1935  
1936 Vice Chair Markevitch: The shaming. And here's this house over here. It's like, "Yeah,  
1937 but that household has three people. We have four, so you can't compare it." The  
1938 shaming part, I just mock it at this point. (crosstalk)

1939  
1940 Commissioner Ashlund: We do have email lists now and opt-in interest lists of people  
1941 who want to be informed of Parks and Rec related things. Do we have any idea how  
1942 many people we have on that?

1943  
1944 Mr. Anderson: It's about 50 or 60. The one I send out to stakeholders?

1945  
1946 Commissioner Ashlund: Yeah. It sounds like we could even tie this in with that as well.  
1947 If we were getting the word out that this was available when people are interested in  
1948 water conservation. I don't know if we're the department to be in charge of that  
1949 information or if there's somebody better to be in charge of water conservation.

1950  
1951 Mr. Anderson: It's Utilities now.

1952  
1953 Commissioner Ashlund: If it's Utilities, it's Utilities. It's not this Commission.

1954  
1955 Commissioner Knopper: Okay. Let's talk to the Utilities Commission.

1956  
1957 Commissioner Hetterly: It's a great idea to include in our staff reports a water  
1958 conservation (crosstalk). That does connect directly.

1959  
1960 Commissioner Crommie: One thing I just want to add. When we were reviewing the  
1961 Urban Forest Plan, I made a comment. I don't know if it got incorporated. We still need

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1962 certain kinds of water hungry trees that drop fruit that animals eat and provide insects and  
1963 butterflies food. If we want to have wildlife still living in our city, we still have to be  
1964 mindful of how water conservation impacts living creatures, animals, and then have a  
1965 balanced approach. My fear with the big drought resistance is that we'll clear all the  
1966 wildlife out with it. Can we just assume that staff will naturally be mindful of that?  
1967

1968 Mr. Anderson: Absolutely. I know Walter Passmore and my team are. That we need a  
1969 diverse plant palate, a diverse tree palate. Peter is. Between Walter, myself and Peter,  
1970 that's who's going to be leading these.  
1971

1972 Commissioner Crommie: It might be nice if that's just commented on in the staff report.  
1973 It doesn't have to have a separate section. I guess what I'd say is what is the cost of this  
1974 water conservation. We're conserving water and are we impacting wildlife when we  
1975 conserve the water.  
1976

1977 Commissioner Knopper: Removing turf is actually beneficial.  
1978

1979 Commissioner Crommie: Yeah, I think it is. It comes up in the plant palette, the tree  
1980 palette. It came up in the Urban Canopy Plan, not wanting anything messy. I'm always  
1981 someone who'd rather have something messy in some regions of the park.  
1982

1983 Vice Chair Markevitch: What you're trying to say is removing turf is different than  
1984 stressing out fruit-growing trees by not giving them enough water. It's two different  
1985 things.  
1986

1987 Mr. Anderson: There's the danger that we just revert to a very narrow plant palette of  
1988 drought-tolerant species. Soon you'll have what verges on three different types of plants.  
1989 You don't want that. That's not good for the environment at all, nor for the aesthetics of a  
1990 park either. That won't be the case. I wrote in "list the compromise and effects to  
1991 wildlife via those water conservation methods."  
1992

1993 Commissioner Ashlund: Deirdre, there was somebody that you and I spoke to on staff. I  
1994 can't remember if it was (inaudible) or John Akin. We were talking about how the City  
1995 has a sustainability person but doesn't have a conservation person.  
1996

1997 Commissioner Crommie: Right. It was when we were speaking with John Akin.  
1998

1999 Commissioner Ashlund: It was John Akin. He mentioned that there's some nonprofit  
2000 that maybe we could partner with in that aspect. Do you remember who that was?  
2001

2002 Commissioner Crommie: I don't remember.  
2003

2004 Commissioner Ashlund: All right. I'll check my notes.  
2005

2006 Commissioner Crommie: That is something that I feel very passionate about, to just have  
2007 a balanced focus on City staff. Daren, do you feel like that's your role on the staff? Are  
2008 you our conservation person?  
2009

2010 Mr. Anderson: I think so. Much like a lot of things we do, we're a small agency, so you  
2011 defer a lot to organizations we partner with, like U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. They  
2012 have a fleet of biologists that work in the very same habitats we do and we can confer  
2013 with them. Rather than having our duplicating fleet, we refer to them a lot. The same is  
2014 true for the plant experts at Acterra and Save the Bay. They have PhDs in wildlife  
2015 biology and specialize in marsh plants. Rather than hiring my own guy who just does  
2016 that, I have a partnership with one. I can ask him questions whenever I want. I have  
2017 them review plans for me all the time. That's how I end up accomplishing those  
2018 conservation elements into the job of what we need.  
2019

2020 Commissioner Crommie: We brought in the (inaudible) person. You could have said the  
2021 same thing. I want to be sustainable, so I confer with these (crosstalk). Within our City  
2022 staff, we didn't make a space for a PhD wildlife conservation person. I don't know if they  
2023 have such a person in Mountain View, for instance. We just have a lot of open land for  
2024 not having a person dedicated to that, I believe.  
2025

2026 Mr. Anderson: The way that Mountain View accomplishes that is through contracts.  
2027 They entered contracts with, for example, burrowing owl experts. They don't have an on-  
2028 staff person. They just contract out. That was one thing that Greg Betts and I talked  
2029 about. Do we enter (inaudible).  
2030

2031 Chair Reckdahl: When you're talking about water thirsty plants, are you talking about  
2032 non-native or native?  
2033

2034 Commissioner Crommie: I don't know. It's really the experts who know this. When you  
2035 have this diverse palette ...  
2036

2037 Chair Reckdahl: You're just saying generically that we shouldn't have blinders on and  
2038 look just at water efficiency?  
2039

2040 Commissioner Crommie: Yes, that's what I'm trying to say.  
2041

2042 Chair Reckdahl: If we have native oaks, for example, we don't water them at all, do we?  
2043

2044 Mr. Anderson: We do to establish them, yes. They're less thirsty than a lot of the other  
2045 trees.

2046  
2047 Chair Reckdahl: In general, we are now skewing our trees towards native. We should be  
2048 decreasing our water use, I assume.

2049  
2050 Mr. Anderson: That's correct.

2051  
2052 Chair Reckdahl: We still would water some of those just for establishing?

2053  
2054 Mr. Anderson: There are some that get water ongoing.

2055  
2056 Commissioner Crommie: An example would be how often do we want to plant fruit trees  
2057 or mock fruit trees. I don't know how that (crosstalk) I don't think some of those are  
2058 native (inaudible).

2059  
2060 Mr. Anderson: (inaudible)

2061  
2062 Commissioner Crommie: That would be a (inaudible) example. They provide food for  
2063 birds.

2064  
2065 Chair Reckdahl: For native birds or non-native birds?

2066  
2067 Commissioner Crommie: I don't know. I've never drilled in that deeply to understand it.  
2068 I just know from the Audubon Society that fruit trees are important to have within our  
2069 plant palette.

2070  
2071 Chair Reckdahl: I'm just thinking from the lazy man's standpoint, if you just plant native  
2072 stuff, you don't have to water it and the native birds would be able to maintain.

2073  
2074 Vice Chair Markevitch: For example, ivy has those berries on it. Every spring when the  
2075 robins come through, they just clean out the berries on their way back north. It's amazing  
2076 to watch. I don't think you can restrict it to native versus non-native birds. You have  
2077 migratory birds that use those trees too.

2078  
2079 Commissioner Crommie: It's complicated. On the ivy, rats also eat those berries, so that  
2080 increases the rat population. Experts study this. I just want us to be mindful of that.

2081  
2082 Commissioner Ashlund: We don't have it on staff. Save the Bay was the organization  
2083 John had mentioned. I don't know that there's anything that we as a Commission can do  
2084 other than wish and hope that staff would someday have a conservationist. We don't  
2085 have that, and I don't think that's in our purview to say that there should be. We don't get  
2086 to say that, right? We should hire a conservationist.

2088 Commissioner Hetterly: We should say that if we want to say that.

2089  
2090 Chair Reckdahl: We can say it, but we have no (crosstalk).

2091  
2092 Vice Chair Markevitch: People who become rangers are conservationists, because that's  
2093 their passion. That's why they are rangers to begin with.

2094  
2095 Commissioner Ashlund: Rangers aren't (crosstalk) projects and determining budgets.

2096  
2097 Vice Chair Ashlund: I understand that, but they make suggestions because they know  
2098 what's going on, on a daily basis.

2099  
2100 Commissioner Crommie: It's different from a PhD biologist. (crosstalk)

2101  
2102 Commissioner Knopper: To Daren's point, it sounds like he draws upon all of the  
2103 richness of the resources that Palo Alto has through volunteer organizations that are  
2104 willing to help us.

2105  
2106 Mr. Anderson: I might add there's a danger in saying, "Hire the PhD. This is our expert  
2107 in conservation." I have hiked through marshes with PhDs who couldn't identify a  
2108 clapper rail. All my staff can. These are PhDs in the field coming out to look at native  
2109 oysters. I said, "You know how to identify a clapper rail, right?" He said, "Of course, I  
2110 do." One vocalized 10 feet away and he had no idea. There's a real danger in saying,  
2111 "We got our PhD. Everything's set." There's a lot of different kinds of PhDs. That  
2112 doesn't mean they have a field knowledge that you need to make the right  
2113 recommendations. I wouldn't hang my hat so heavy on those kind of experts necessarily.  
2114 Sometimes having this diverse group of PhDs that I have through this partnership may be  
2115 better in some ways.

2116  
2117 Commissioner Crommie: Also having conservation plans is a great protective layer. I  
2118 would hope that we'll eventually have a conservation plan for everyone of our open space  
2119 preserves. You have the CIP right now for the Baylands. Do we have a conservation  
2120 plan yet for Foothills and Arastradero?

2121  
2122 Mr. Anderson: Nope. That's the only one that has it.

2123  
2124 Commissioner Crommie: When we were reviewing the natural environment element of  
2125 the Comprehensive Plan, Commissioner Hetterly and I made sure there was language in  
2126 there to say we wanted conservation plans for all those areas. That would be really what  
2127 we need to do, is push those through.

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2129 Mr. Anderson: It's both in the updated Comprehensive Plan and I wrote it into the  
2130 updated Urban Forest Plan. You'll have two documents, if and when they get adopted by  
2131 Council. They'll both substantiate call out to those Comprehensive Plans.

2132  
2133 Chair Reckdahl: Anyone else have additional priorities for next year?

2134  
2135 Commissioner Crommie: We've got water conservation. Are you going to have the  
2136 creek undercrossing?

2137  
2138 Chair Reckdahl: We can talk about that now.

2139  
2140 Vice Chair Markevitch: Can we open up the one under the freeway? We're not getting  
2141 any more rain this year.

2142  
2143 Commissioner Crommie: I worked so hard on that, Pat, you will never believe. When  
2144 we were in our meeting (inaudible) I said, "Can we have one clean out and then reopen it  
2145 again?" I didn't get that. That's all I want. First of all we took five years to get them to  
2146 say we don't need to be on a fixed calendar but we can use seasonal. Finally they decided  
2147 that we don't close it on October 15 but we waited until the first rain. I said, "Moreover,  
2148 can we do the one clean up?" They said no. They waited until the first storm which this  
2149 year came around December. They didn't clean it out, and it's been closed ever since and  
2150 we haven't even had another significant storm. At the staff level, Daren, if you're willing  
2151 to take that on? I'd go into a meeting with Elizabeth Ames again. I'm indebted to her for  
2152 pushing us through the barrier of taking it off of the calendar. This year's a perfect  
2153 example of why we should have had a clean out and a reopening. We are losing months  
2154 and months of use of that tunnel.

2155  
2156 Vice Chair Markevitch: It (inaudible) in an hour and a half literally.

2157  
2158 Commissioner Crommie: Officially it's supposed to open on April 15th, but we've  
2159 missed this whole year. It could have been open except for a week. My family uses that  
2160 constantly. We have to go to San Antonio Avenue.

2161  
2162 Commissioner Hetterly: Is that being proposed as a topic for an ad hoc?

2163  
2164 Commissioner Crommie: It's so simple.

2165  
2166 Chair Reckdahl: Let's back off here and look at the big picture.

2167  
2168 Commissioner Crommie: That's would be Lefkowitz tunnel, so we'd have to add onto  
2169 this list. I added on Matadero, and Pat is adding on Lefkowitz.

2171 Mr. Anderson: Is it the same ad hoc? Is that what you're talking about?  
2172

2173 Commissioner Crommie: What did we do? We did our creek and urban trails for the  
2174 Lefkowitz, about how we worked on Lefkowitz. We'd have to form a new ad hoc. It's  
2175 pretty simple work. Actually it's just going back to that platform and saying, "Hey, can  
2176 we get this done?"  
2177

2178 Chair Reckdahl: Let's get the rest of the Commissioners and then add underneath  
2179 meetings. We had a meeting last week with Elizabeth Ames. Deirdre and I have been on  
2180 the Byxbee ad hoc and we were talking to Daren. When we go to Byxbee now, we park  
2181 over by Matadero Creek and hike up the back way instead of going all the way down  
2182 Embarcadero. The thing we realized is when you park there right off of East Bayshore,  
2183 you're very, very close to Byxbee. You're less than a half mile away from Byxbee which  
2184 made us realize that all those people in Midtown, just on the other side of the freeway as  
2185 the crow flies, were incredibly close to, in fact probably closer to Byxbee than Greer.  
2186 They are closer to Byxbee than I am to my neighborhood park. That's how close it is.  
2187 That underpass is being used right now; people hop the rail and go under there all the  
2188 time. There's bike treads and shoe prints on the mud all the time. If we open that up  
2189 now, the people who want to walk their dog in the morning can go under the freeway,  
2190 and they're right there at Byxbee.  
2191

2192 Commissioner Hetterly: That's an issue that has come up many, many, many, many  
2193 times in the past. The city has been very reluctant to make than an official crossing.  
2194

2195 Commissioner Crommie: Undercrossing.  
2196

2197 Commissioner Hetterly: Undercrossing. If you met with Elizabeth Ames about this ...  
2198

2199 Chair Reckdahl: Yes.  
2200

2201 Commissioner Crommie: Matadero.  
2202

2203 Commissioner Hetterly: Do you know that there's a working group for the trail piece of  
2204 the bike plan that would go from Greer to Bryant or something like that? They wanted  
2205 somebody from Parks and Rec represented on there.  
2206

2207 Chair Reckdahl: Jaime mentioned that to me. On his way out, I sent an email saying,  
2208 "Can I get it done for you?" One of the things he mentioned was that he had just talked  
2209 to you about being a representative.  
2210

2211 Commissioner Crommie: Jaime and the working group are working on a different part of  
2212 Matadero Creek. That's a more controversial area because it's abutting many more

2213 residences. This is what we need to strategize around. Is it worthwhile to break off this  
2214 section of Matadero Creek that goes under 101 as a separate effort? Maybe led by our  
2215 Parks and Recreation Commission, maybe an ad hoc from us to say, "Can we work on  
2216 this one section in parallel with the working group working on the whole creek?" Is that  
2217 what you're getting at?  
2218

2219 Chair Reckdahl: Yes. There are a couple of barriers. One is that the ramps going down,  
2220 my estimate is about 9 percent grade and for ADA it's 8.3. There probably would be  
2221 some small changes, unless you can get an exception. I'm not sure of the ADA rules. Do  
2222 you know, Daren? How hard is it to get an exception for that?  
2223

2224 Mr. Anderson: It's possible.  
2225

2226 Chair Reckdahl: We have to investigate that. The other is that the clearance under the  
2227 bridge is only 8 feet. Elizabeth said that was problematic. If I'm sitting on my bike, I  
2228 still can't get 8 feet; 8 feet to me is pretty tall. I think we'd be okay from a practical  
2229 standpoint. I'm not sure if those regulations would prevent us from doing that.  
2230

2231 Mr. Anderson: We'd have to confer with Santa Clara Valley Water District too.  
2232

2233 Commissioner Crommie: Elizabeth seemed pretty comfortable with that. She has a lot  
2234 of contacts there now because she's done the bridge over Highway 101. She had to do all  
2235 kinds of work with Caltrans, Water District.  
2236

2237 Vice Chair Markevitch: That's going to be two separate ad hocs then?  
2238

2239 Chair Reckdahl: Matadero is separate from Lefkowitz.  
2240

2241 Commissioner Crommie: Lefkowitz should be very quick. You'll either get a yes or no.  
2242

2243 Chair Reckdahl: There's a budget issue. If they're going down and cleaning up, who's  
2244 paying for that?  
2245

2246 Commissioner Crommie: Right.  
2247

2248 Commissioner Hetterly: We don't need an ad hoc for Lefkowitz. We just need  
2249 somebody who's the lead on coordinating the planning.  
2250

2251 Commissioner Crommie: To go and have a meeting with them and say, "Can you do  
2252 this?" Maybe (inaudible) can do it, because I've already sat in other meetings. It's really  
2253 calling one meeting. I don't think we need to do (crosstalk).  
2254

2255 Mr. Jensen: Sounds to me like that's the Water District issue, why it can't be cleaned and  
2256 opened very quickly. If it was the City controlling it, that we'd do it and get it done.

2257  
2258 Vice Chair Markevitch: It's the next layer.

2259  
2260 Mr. Jensen: The Water District doesn't move very quickly.

2261  
2262 Commissioner Crommie: Our City does the cleanup, don't we?

2263  
2264 Mr. Jensen: I don't think we do. I think they do it; that's why it takes so long.

2265  
2266 Chair Reckdahl: We're going to have an ad hoc of one for Lefkowitz, and that will be  
2267 Pat.

2268  
2269 Commissioner Crommie: I think your staff contact is Elizabeth Ames.

2270  
2271 Vice Chair Markevitch: Yeah, I know her well.

2272  
2273 Chair Reckdahl: Matadero undercrossing ...

2274  
2275 Commissioner Crommie: Can I just say one more thing about Pat's meeting? Is it a done  
2276 deal that we can't keep Lefkowitz open once we build the new bridge over 101? Who  
2277 decided that? I think a lot of people (crosstalk)

2278  
2279 Vice Chair Markevitch: I'll ask her in that meeting. I'll ask Elizabeth.

2280  
2281 Commissioner Crommie: I was just curious if anyone here knew who had made that  
2282 decision to not (crosstalk).

2283  
2284 Vice Chair Markevitch: We were pushing to keep it open.

2285  
2286 Commissioner Crommie: Do you know, Jen?

2287  
2288 Commissioner Hetterly: I don't know who made the decision.

2289  
2290 Chair Reckdahl: (inaudible)

2291  
2292 Commissioner Crommie: It's just another row with the crowd. (crosstalk) Some people  
2293 don't like going over a bridge and they can go down through the tunnel.

2294  
2295 Commissioner Hetterly: Especially for commuters.

2296

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2297 Commissioner Crommie: Again, it would be seasonal. It's never going to be a  
2298 (crosstalk).

2299  
2300 Chair Reckdahl: You reduce bridge traffic which makes it easier for everyone else to  
2301 cross. I don't mind that.

2302  
2303 Commissioner Ashlund: Cost of occasional cleanup.

2304  
2305 Commissioner Crommie: How do you want to proceed with Matadero?

2306  
2307 Chair Reckdahl: We had this initial conversation with Elizabeth Ames. What's the next  
2308 step? Is she going to talk to ...

2309  
2310 Commissioner Crommie: She was going to talk to Daren.

2311  
2312 Chair Reckdahl: She dug up some old planning and forwarded it on to us.

2313  
2314 Commissioner Crommie: The documents that she has is a feasibility study that was done  
2315 for the bridge across Highway 101. They looked (inaudible) Matadero when they were  
2316 trying to figure out the alignment. I think she went back and dug out that study to try to  
2317 see what the barriers are.

2318  
2319 Mr. Anderson: I haven't reviewed that yet. I'd be glad to help both of you guys. We  
2320 could review those together and see next steps. It'd probably be pulling in Santa Clara  
2321 Water District and our Public Works team and have (inaudible). After we've identified  
2322 (inaudible).

2323  
2324 Chair Reckdahl: For now let's keep on working to Byxbee. We may fork this off into  
2325 separate ad hocs. Looks like it's going to be time consuming.

2326  
2327 Mr. Anderson: You're envisioning Matadero as part of the Byxbee one?

2328  
2329 Chair Reckdahl: Yeah, I think so.

2330  
2331 Mr. Anderson: I'm thinking the Byxbee one's done. If you're talking about the interim  
2332 plan (crosstalk).

2333  
2334 Chair Reckdahl: I'm talking about the ad hoc. Not you, just the group.

2335  
2336 Mr. Anderson: I see.

2337

2338 Chair Reckdahl: We may get shot down and this may go away. If it does go on, then  
2339 we'll (crosstalk).

2340  
2341 Mr. Anderson: Should I add it here as the Matadero Creek Undercrossing Committee  
2342 with you and Commissioner Crommie?

2343  
2344 Chair Reckdahl: I guess you can mark that down and keep that (inaudible).

2345  
2346 Vice Chair Markevitch: Anything else?

2347  
2348 Commissioner Ashlund: We should keep Project Safety Net as something that we have  
2349 liaison with.

2350  
2351 Chair Reckdahl: We have Project Safety Net (crosstalk).

2352  
2353 Vice Chair Markevitch: We used to have a liaison to Project Safety Net for the executive  
2354 committee on it. When they reorganized the committee, we were dropped off.

2355  
2356 Chair Reckdahl: Can we get back on it? Do we want to get back on it?

2357  
2358 Commissioner Ashlund: I'd like to propose that we get back on it.

2359  
2360 Chair Reckdahl: I think that would be a good idea.

2361  
2362 Vice Chair Markevitch: It's got to come from them, not us.

2363  
2364 Commissioner Ashlund: The them is Minka and Donna.

2365  
2366 Vice Chair Markevitch: What's actually the whole ...

2367  
2368 Commissioner Ashlund: The leadership committee.

2369  
2370 Vice Chair Markevitch: They just hired a new director.

2371  
2372 Commissioner Crommie: Rob was instrumental in helping (inaudible).

2373  
2374 Commissioner Ashlund: He's not (crosstalk).

2375  
2376 Vice Chair Markevitch: Absolutely. He's (inaudible).

2377  
2378 Chair Reckdahl: He asked or they asked?

2379

2380 Vice Chair Markevitch: I'm saying he's probably going to have to move off because he's  
2381 too busy.

2382  
2383 Commissioner Crommie: If someone from this Commission wants to do that, I think  
2384 that's great, just to have those connections between our Commission and (crosstalk).

2385  
2386 Commissioner Ashlund: I'd be glad to share that liaison with you if you want to stay on  
2387 it.

2388  
2389 Vice Chair Markevitch: No, go ahead. Five years is enough.

2390  
2391 Chair Reckdahl: Stacey, let's propose that you're the ad hoc of one.

2392  
2393 Commissioner Ashlund: Is it an ad hoc or a follow up?

2394  
2395 Commissioner Crommie: It's a liaison.

2396  
2397 Chair Reckdahl: Liaison then. A liaison of one. We'll see if we can get you in the door.  
2398 If you can't get in the door then (crosstalk).

2399  
2400 Commissioner Ashlund: I'm already on the list. I was going to the next meeting and I've  
2401 been pushing to get a director back in there for a long time.

2402  
2403 Vice Chair Markevitch: Are you going to the DE meetings or also the executive board  
2404 meetings?

2405  
2406 Commissioner Ashlund: I wasn't on the leadership committee.

2407  
2408 Vice Chair Markevitch: You need to get on the leadership committee. Push for that.

2409  
2410 Commissioner Crommie: Do we need any other liaison types? Anything to do with the  
2411 teen community, I remember there was Commissioner, what's Paul's last name?

2412  
2413 Commissioner Hetterly: Losch.

2414  
2415 Commissioner Crommie: Commissioner Losch went to some of the Teen Advisory  
2416 Board committees. Does our Commission feel like we need to reach out more to the teen  
2417 community or does Project Safety Net cover everything? It was reaching out to kids who  
2418 were interested in local government, that kind of thing.

2419  
2420 Commissioner Ashlund: I don't know. I've apparently got myself assigned on a new ...  
2421

2422 Commissioner Hetterly: (inaudible)

2423  
2424 Commissioner Crommie: Are there any other needs around that that either of you can  
2425 think of?

2426  
2427 Commissioner Ashlund: I can't take more on than what I've already got at Gunn.

2428  
2429 Commissioner Crommie: Pat, is there anything that you already serve for?

2430  
2431 Vice Chair Markevitch: Mine's mostly PTA. It's not Teen Advisory. They can come to  
2432 us with the yearly report, how they're doing (crosstalk).

2433  
2434 Commissioner Ashlund: It would be great if somebody had time, interest, energy to do it.  
2435 It would be great. I have the interest but not the time.

2436  
2437 Vice Chair Markevitch: I went to that Senior Summit about a month ago. I loved it.  
2438 They're only doing it every year, and I won't be on the Commission the next time it rolls  
2439 around. Be nice of somebody else, if you want it.

2440  
2441 Commissioner Crommie: That's another thing. You know you're not going to reappoint  
2442 onto this Commission?

2443  
2444 Vice Chair Markevitch: (crosstalk)

2445  
2446 Commissioner Ashlund: Senior Summit as in seniors in high school or seniors over 65?

2447  
2448 Vice Chair Markevitch: Seniors over 65.

2449  
2450 Commissioner Crommie: That's another thing. I can just make an announcement here.  
2451 I'm not going to reappoint. That's another thing, look for more fellow Commissioners. If  
2452 you have other ...

2453  
2454 Chair Reckdahl: When does your term expire?

2455  
2456 Commissioner Crommie: This year.

2457  
2458 Vice Chair Markevitch: October.

2459  
2460 Commissioner Hetterly: December. They extended it to December.

2461  
2462 Commissioner Lauing: They moved it again to December. Are we still talking about  
2463 new things to go on the list?

2464  
2465 Chair Reckdahl: Mm-hmm.  
2466

2467 Commissioner Lauing: One of the things that I don't exactly know if this is in policy, but  
2468 as you know from the CIP discussions, we're really concerned about the safety of the  
2469 Foothills Park thing with that fire road issue. That should be a policy for our City to keep  
2470 our citizens safe. I think it fits within policy. Is that something you'd be actually  
2471 working on?  
2472

2473 Commissioner Crommie: Can you give a little background?  
2474

2475 Mr. Anderson: I can give you an update. That's a very good question. In 2009, the City  
2476 completed the Foothills Fire Management Study. In that study was a bunch of  
2477 recommendations and \$740,000 worth of work. A lot of it was clearing vegetation on  
2478 escape routes and internal parts of Foothills Park. Not just Foothills Park, all the way up  
2479 Page Mill Road up to Skyline, Arastradero Road, and all these areas in that Foothills  
2480 region. It called for a number of action items. The City sat idle with it for a number of  
2481 years, because nobody could manage it. No one could get it going. Primarily it sat in the  
2482 lap of Public Works just because they used to do roadside clearing. This has an element  
2483 of roadside clearing, so they managed that CIP, but very little happened beyond what was  
2484 originally done. The Fire Department was involved of course, and it still sat idle.  
2485 Eventually all parties came together and we formed a partnership. This is the recent part  
2486 that gets us to where we want to be. We formed the Fire Safety Council. It's a nonprofit  
2487 organization that works well as a partner to us. We funnel the money from that CIP. We  
2488 didn't get \$750,000 to implement the plan. We got \$250,000. It sat idle for about four  
2489 years. We're just now exercising the last of those funds primarily through this  
2490 partnership that's now set up where they contract out with various contractors like CalFire  
2491 for example. They contract with their crews, and they come in and do this clearing that's  
2492 called for in the plan. Through that partnership, we're now able to really utilize and meet  
2493 the goals of that plan. Before we weren't. Now we've exhausted just about every bit of  
2494 the funding that was leftover from that previous CIP. We put in a funding request  
2495 ongoing for this one as a CIP. It was denied as you probably know. That was the  
2496 concern. Your request for new funds was shot down, what are you going to do about it  
2497 now? We went back as a team, we formed this group, I'm the Chair, with the Fire  
2498 Department, Public Works, and Utilities and CSD. We meet every month to discuss this.  
2499 We came up with a plan. We rehired the author of the fire plan to update it, give us fresh  
2500 numbers, reprioritize the work that needs to be done, and help us form substantial,  
2501 justifiable requests for funding. ASD said, "We don't think this is a CIP. We want this to  
2502 go into your operating budgets." We divvied up the relevant portions and the inside the  
2503 park fund request will come from CSD. It's about \$74,000 a year. Outside the park,  
2504 \$64,000 or so for Public Works, that's the roadside clearing. Fire is requesting \$60,000 a  
2505 year for fire assessment, fuel load assessment, and implementing the control burns.



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2506 Those are the three elements of the fire plan broken up for the departments. Now we've  
2507 got the request in and we'll see what comes. Right now it's still on the plate and everyone  
2508 understands the importance of it. Would it be valuable to have the Commission  
2509 advocate? I think so, because during our meetings, ASD came to the meetings and said,  
2510 "Give us a tiered approach." I understand this is what Carol Rice, the author of the plan,  
2511 says you need to realize the goals. What would it be if we didn't quite get all the way  
2512 there? What if we lowball? That was scary to hear that someone would put those options  
2513 in this kind of scenario. I understand the need to ask the questions. We tried to formulate  
2514 the answers in real impactful statements. If you went with Assumption B, you'd no  
2515 longer have safety zones for police or fire and they're not going to come to the calls.  
2516 Things along those nature. Your picnic areas are no longer safe for fire safety. We tried  
2517 to formulate like that, and we'll see what comes. Maybe the answer is if we don't get the  
2518 funding we requested, then we form a team to issue a memo.

2519  
2520 Commissioner Lauing: We should be more proactive. We have a major safety problem  
2521 in our biggest park. That seems to be a policy issue that we might want to chime in on.  
2522 You guys have been shot down for years on this. For us to make a resolution that there  
2523 are these three buckets in the budget, and Council needs to approve these three buckets  
2524 for safety in our park. We'll get the wording right. It seems to me like quite an  
2525 appropriate action for us to take in advance of the budget. It's not let's wait and see if we  
2526 get turned down.

2527  
2528 Mr. Anderson: I only say that because the budget is all happening right this minute.

2529  
2530 Chair Reckdahl: How is the operating budget allocated? I know how the CIPs work.

2531  
2532 Mr. Anderson: This comes from the General Fund of course. ASD reviews the request,  
2533 the changes and deletions from all the different departments, looks at the overall poll and  
2534 sees what's available and divvies it up based on the justifications. I think we've got a  
2535 strong, strong argument for why we need to fund this, but it is an increase over what was  
2536 asked for before.

2537  
2538 Chair Reckdahl: ASD puts together the budget and submits it to the Council?

2539  
2540 Mr. Anderson: The Finance Committee and then the Council.

2541  
2542 Chair Reckdahl: This is really an issue for Finance Committee then.

2543  
2544 Mr. Anderson: Yes.

2545  
2546 Chair Reckdahl: Do we want to go to Finance Committee? Would that be easier  
2547 (inaudible)?

2548  
2549 Mr. Anderson: Maybe I can follow up.

2550  
2551 Commissioner Lauing: We can do a resolution that goes to the Finance Committee too.  
2552 Would that be helpful?

2553  
2554 Mr. Anderson: Yes.

2555  
2556 Commissioner Lauing: It seems to me like this is an action item for a Commission  
2557 meeting, not an ad hoc or (inaudible) because you've got all the studies done. We just  
2558 want to put our weight behind it that it is a big safety problem.

2559  
2560 Council Member Filseth: I believe the 2016 budget issue (inaudible) Finance Committee  
2561 in the next couple of months. (inaudible) I don't know if anybody else (inaudible).

2562  
2563 Vice Chair Markevitch: I saw pictures of the Berkeley Hills from 1990.

2564  
2565 Commissioner Lauing: I like the plan, that you've figured out a new way around the  
2566 bottleneck. The risk now is that it's (crosstalk) it'll be ignored.

2567  
2568 Commissioner Hetterly: We need a letter or a resolution then to come before the  
2569 Commission as an action item.

2570  
2571 Commissioner Lauing: Right.

2572  
2573 Commissioner Crommie: We'll write a recommendation.

2574  
2575 Commissioner Hetterly: (crosstalk) directly to Finance Committee and the Council.

2576  
2577 Commissioner Lauing: Which I think we missed Tuesday. So it's got to in tomorrow.  
2578 Just because of the public nature of the general (inaudible). You're at least alerted to it,  
2579 Eric. If it comes up sooner than that, raise your hand.

2580  
2581 Council Member Filseth: I look for it in my inbox.

2582  
2583 Mr. Anderson: The other thing I can find out is where ASD is now with the  
2584 recommendation. Are they putting forward what we originally proposed? Are they  
2585 putting down a tiered response? I don't know; I haven't heard. I can reach out to them  
2586 and get that answer concurrent with drafting a memo.

2587  
2588 Commissioner Lauing: I'm happy to work with you on that, however you want on that or  
2589 not at all. I'd like to see it before it comes to us for a vote.

2590  
2591 Commissioner Crommie: It seems really good that it's moving into the operating budget  
2592 ultimately though. That's a no-frills environment.

2593  
2594 Commissioner Lauing: It is as long as they don't start trimming here and there and those  
2595 are the pieces that get trimmed.

2596  
2597 Chair Reckdahl: The easiest way to cut something is to break it into three pieces and  
2598 then cut the three pieces. We will put that for April (inaudible).

2599  
2600 Council Member Filseth: How much is this going to cost?

2601  
2602 Commissioner Lauing: Say again.

2603  
2604 Council Member Filseth: How much was the ballpark that this was going to cost.

2605  
2606 Mr. Anderson: The total request for annual budget is right around \$150,000, \$160,000 a  
2607 year.

2608  
2609 Commissioner Lauing: Per year?

2610  
2611 Mr. Anderson: No, this is the entire thing. CSD is \$74,000, something like that.

2612  
2613 Commissioner Lauing: Instead of putting it into a multi-year CIP, it's now a smaller  
2614 piece ...

2615  
2616 Mr. Anderson: Ongoing budget.

2617  
2618 Commissioner Lauing: ... in the ongoing budget. The same number ends up the same  
2619 after four years or five years, doesn't it?

2620  
2621 Mr. Anderson: Right. The difference is this would have been a new CIP. The old one  
2622 had been funded for \$250,000 to cover a certain number of years.

2623  
2624 Commissioner Lauing: The only question is do you have a comfort level of getting it  
2625 annually, so we're not keeping a high risk situation there for three years because you don't  
2626 have enough to do a surge and get it all done at once.

2627  
2628 Mr. Anderson: We had talked about that too. I was more comfortable with the CIP  
2629 paradigm. It used to carry over whether you spent it all, so you frontload or save money  
2630 for the next year if there was a bigger thing looming, like a cleanup year or something  
2631 more heavy. ASD is getting away from those kind of projects becoming CIPs. They

2632 said, "This is no longer the kind of CIP we want. That'll be built into operating from now  
2633 on." It's not something they're willing to do. Getting the funding is still great of course.  
2634 If it needs to be in operating, we'll do it that way.

2635  
2636 Commissioner Crommie: Is ASD Administrative Services Department?

2637  
2638 Mr. Anderson: Yes. They're budgets and (crosstalk).

2639  
2640 Chair Reckdahl: How much catch-up do we have to do with the fire? Are we in a steady  
2641 state now or do we think that we're worse than our eventual goal to get into a steady  
2642 state?

2643  
2644 Mr. Anderson: We're (inaudible). We've made some really good strides this last year,  
2645 just knocking out a lot of significant portions along Page Mill Road, and then inside  
2646 Foothills Park. It looks very different in terms of the cutback or the lifting up of  
2647 vegetation, the way it once was long ago and before it became all grown in and became  
2648 this hazard. We're catching up is the answer. We're getting closer.

2649  
2650 Chair Reckdahl: Ed, do you have anything else? The fire plan, is that the only item  
2651 you'd like to add?

2652  
2653 Commissioner Lauing: Yeah. We picked up another one (inaudible) funding.

2654  
2655 Commissioner Crommie: Another idea for the list, does anyone want to look at more  
2656 camping sites in Foothills Park? Those of you who are on that 7.7 acres committee, do  
2657 you think that our Commission needs to do any work on that?

2658  
2659 Commissioner Hetterly: No.

2660  
2661 Commissioner Knopper: Until the study comes back, because it may well lend itself to a  
2662 campsite.

2663  
2664 Commissioner Crommie: I wasn't meaning for that part of the park. Just in general.

2665  
2666 Commissioner Lauing: The point is do we need more campsites.

2667  
2668 Commissioner Crommie: Do we need more campsites in Foothills Park? I'm personally  
2669 not in favor of them being (crosstalk).

2670  
2671 Vice Chair Markevitch: I wouldn't even bring it up then.

2672  
2673 Commissioner Crommie: Don't bring it up, okay.

2674  
2675 Commissioner Knopper: We talked to (inaudible) about it when we doing the analysis.  
2676

2677 Commissioner Crommie: There's a lot of demand for the Towle Campground, that's why  
2678 I brought it up.  
2679

2680 Chair Reckdahl: I think the problem is that if you wanted to do it, the question would be  
2681 do you want to do it at the 7.7 acres. We don't know right now because of the hydrology  
2682 study.  
2683

2684 Commissioner Crommie: No. I wanted it to be disconnected. I'm just saying in general  
2685 camping, not connected to the 7.7 acres.  
2686

2687 Commissioner Hetterly: As a general issue, that comes up then in our prioritization  
2688 discussion over the Master Plan, whether or not we want to prioritize that.  
2689

2690 Commissioner Crommie: Okay, that's a good point.  
2691

2692 Chair Reckdahl: Peter's not here. Do we know is the Master Plan addressing camping  
2693 sites?  
2694

2695 Mr. Anderson: I believe so.  
2696

2697 Chair Reckdahl: I'll start. I've got a couple more to add.  
2698

2699 Commissioner Crommie: Did we get through the first?  
2700

2701 Chair Reckdahl: Project Safety Net we have. Another thing that I mentioned to Rob, and  
2702 I wish I'd caught this before. This Friends group, I feel like we're unclear on what  
2703 Friends groups do. I don't even know what all the Friends groups are. There's Friends of  
2704 the Foothills Park. There's Friends of Park.  
2705

2706 Vice Chair Markevitch: There's like 40 of them.  
2707

2708 Commissioner Crommie: I saw a list once.  
2709

2710 Commissioner Ashlund: We need a new one. We need Friends of the Baylands  
2711 Interpretive Center.  
2712

2713 Chair Reckdahl: I'd asked Rob if he could just give us a list of all the Friends groups that  
2714 work our parks. He is not here now.  
2715

2716 Commissioner Crommie: (crosstalk)  
2717

2718 Commissioner Lauing: I vote that we don't have all 40 of them come to the meeting.  
2719

2720 Vice Chair Markevitch: We just need a list. We don't need to make a whole big thing  
2721 out of it.  
2722

2723 Mr. Anderson: We can send you the list.  
2724

2725 Chair Reckdahl: I'd like two things. I'd like to know the list of all the different Friends  
2726 groups. I suspect some of them are more active than others. The other is that  
2727 periodically if a Friends group is doing something new in the parks, it'd be nice for them  
2728 to come back and have either an announcement at the end that Rob, when he gives his  
2729 announcements, talks about parks. In the two years I've been on the Commission, never  
2730 once have we mentioned what the Friends groups have done. Just a periodic update of  
2731 what's going on with the Friends groups.  
2732

2733 Commissioner Ashlund: Do you mean per park? Do you mean the Friends groups that  
2734 are associated with parks?  
2735

2736 Chair Reckdahl: Correct.  
2737

2738 Commissioner Ashlund: I believe there's also one associated with recreation.  
2739

2740 Chair Reckdahl: Parks and recreation.  
2741

2742 Commissioner Ashlund: There's one that doesn't have park in its name.  
2743

2744 Chair Reckdahl: Not that we want to micromanage what they're doing, but it'd be nice to  
2745 know what they're doing.  
2746

2747 Commissioner Ashlund: To know what's out there. Yeah, Palo Alto Recreation  
2748 Foundation is still out there. They don't have Friends in their name.  
2749

2750 Chair Reckdahl: Another thing we mentioned earlier with that grassy area off Colorado,  
2751 whether we can use that for a dog park or community gardens or something like that. Are  
2752 there other areas that are City land but not parkland and that we could use for purposes?  
2753

2754 Mr. Anderson: In the context of looking for a place for dogs, that was the one that  
2755 jumped out. I'm not familiar with too many others. Maybe one or two small spots.  
2756 There's one behind the Baylands Athletic Center. It's an undeveloped piece of land. It is  
2757 parkland. It's between the International School and us. It's a little small.

2758 Vice Chair Markevitch: Do you mean where the batting cages may go?  
2759

2760 Mr. Anderson: No. This is not in the former PASCO site. This is closer to the  
2761 International School.  
2762

2763 Vice Chair Markevitch: That's too bad. They'd be great ball retrievers.  
2764

2765 Commissioner Lauing: Where is it relative to the softball field?  
2766

2767 Mr. Anderson: Just on the other side of the fence towards the school.  
2768

2769 Chair Reckdahl: The right field fence of the skinny field. There's an area back there  
2770 that's just dead.  
2771

2772 Mr. Anderson: It's small, so I don't know what could fit on it. It is a piece of land that's  
2773 (crosstalk).  
2774

2775 Chair Reckdahl: I'm not sure there's parking over there by the International School.  
2776

2777 Vice Chair Markevitch: No, there's none.  
2778

2779 Mr. Anderson: None.  
2780

2781 Chair Reckdahl: There's none there?  
2782

2783 Vice Chair Markevitch: Zero. The parents are parking in the post office lot to drop their  
2784 kids off.  
2785

2786 Mr. Anderson: The only thing that's put that on hold in my mind is as the levee moves  
2787 over for the widening of the JPA project, it's compromising that whole area, how you  
2788 even get to it. I almost want to see how it shakes out to know what the best use would be.  
2789 That's another piece of land that we'd have. It's that lot.  
2790

2791 Commissioner Crommie: The question of Sterling Canal is like finding real estate.  
2792

2793 Chair Reckdahl: Sterling Canal's is owned by the City?  
2794

2795 Mr. Anderson: There are easements in it according to Utilities. I have not seen the map.  
2796 From what they say, there's a PG&E easement that runs down the middle. Although it's  
2797 owned by the City, they've got that easement which is significant. They said there's three  
2798 easements on that piece of land.  
2799

2800  
2801 Vice Chair Markevitch: I've mentioned this to Deirdre before. Ramos Park is a great  
2802 spot for a community garden. There's a big piece of land to the left side of it.

2803  
2804 Commissioner Hetterly: A rectangular chunk.

2805  
2806 Commissioner Crommie: I go there a lot to their dog meetings to check it out. They  
2807 don't go over (inaudible).

2808  
2809 Commissioner Hetterly: That's where I see them.

2810  
2811 Commissioner Crommie: They would be closer (inaudible) I'd ever seen, the ones at  
2812 Ramos Park. A place where a community garden I thought would be neat to look at  
2813 would be that land that we have at Foothill and Arastradero. I think it's called an open  
2814 space. Is that that Esther something?

2815  
2816 Mr. Anderson: Esther Clark.

2817  
2818 Commissioner Crommie: Esther Clark. I want to go check that out sometime.

2819  
2820 Commissioner Ashlund: It's an interesting space.

2821  
2822 Commissioner Crommie: It's an interesting space that's fully underutilized. I don't think  
2823 anyone ever steps foot on it as far as I believe.

2824  
2825 Chair Reckdahl: There's deer crossings there.

2826  
2827 Mr. Anderson: There's paths that people use. There's not one utility on it. There's no  
2828 amenities on it.

2829  
2830 Chair Reckdahl: None of the paths are made. They're just ad hoc.

2831  
2832 Commissioner Crommie: I was always interested in that for a community garden.

2833  
2834 Mr. Anderson: I'm really hoping that the Master Plan will help with that. I just wrote in  
2835 the notes on the maps that come out from Master Plan (inaudible). Opportunities where  
2836 you've got 22 acres with not a single amenity on it. That's certainly an opportunity for a  
2837 Friends group, for habitat restoration, for trail systems, for you name it.

2838  
2839 Chair Reckdahl: For Esther Clark, are we constrained at all? That's considered general  
2840 parkland that we can do anything we want?

2842 Commissioner Ashlund: Does it have any preservation ...

2843  
2844 Mr. Anderson: It's open space parkland.

2845  
2846 Commissioner Ashlund: Does it have any preserved status, any protective status to it?

2847  
2848 Mr. Anderson: It's parkland, so it has ...

2849  
2850 Commissioner Ashlund: It's just parkland.

2851  
2852 Mr. Anderson: ... home facility zoning status like all our parks. It's very closely bounded  
2853 by residences which makes it a little different than any of our other places. (inaudible)

2854  
2855 Commissioner Crommie: I wanted to mention that (inaudible) the dog ad hoc committee.  
2856 They just opened a new dog park in Los Altos Hills on Purissima. If anyone wants to  
2857 check it out (inaudible) dog parks. I haven't been to it yet, but I've heard about it. It  
2858 might be Los Altos Hills only dog park.

2859  
2860 Chair Reckdahl: Turf?

2861  
2862 Commissioner Crommie: I think it's dirt. It's near the baseball diamond on Purissima  
2863 Road. There's a well-established park there. It's to the south of Arastradero and  
2864 Purissima.

2865  
2866 Chair Reckdahl: Arastradero?

2867  
2868 Commissioner Crommie: The dog park is on Purissima Road, south of the intersection of  
2869 Purissima and Arastradero Roads.

2870  
2871 Chair Reckdahl: That's very close to (inaudible)

2872  
2873 Commissioner Crommie: It's extremely close to Palo Alto, just blocks away.

2874  
2875 Vice Chair Markevitch: Is there anything else?

2876  
2877 Chair Reckdahl: The only thing that we've skipped over is the Master Plan.

2878  
2879 Vice Chair Markevitch: It's ongoing.

2880  
2881 Chair Reckdahl: It's ongoing, but it's ...

2882  
2883 Commissioner Crommie: How about just the ad hocs, redoing them?

2884  
2885 Chair Reckdahl: Let's talk about the stakeholders group and community meetings.  
2886 What's the status for community meetings. That is the outreach meeting. Will  
2887 (inaudible)?  
2888

2889 Commissioner Hetterly: No. There's prioritization meetings upcoming for both of those  
2890 groups. Those first two ad hocs should still be engaged. The Master Plan Survey is  
2891 completed.  
2892

2893 Commissioner Ashlund: That's the only one that's complete, yes.  
2894

2895 Commissioner Crommie: We can knock that one off the list.  
2896

2897 Commissioner Ashlund: The stakeholders, we only had the one.  
2898

2899 Mr. Jensen: We've had one stakeholder meeting while I was at a prioritization  
2900 stakeholder meeting. There's three altogether, then there'll be one at the end that'll review  
2901 the plan with the stakeholders.  
2902

2903 Commissioner Ashlund: The schedule is ...  
2904

2905 Vice Chair Markevitch: Stakeholders next week.  
2906

2907 Mr. Jensen: It's not scheduled yet. It will coincide with the next community meetings  
2908 which will be in a couple of months from now after we figure out our data thing in the  
2909 prioritization stage, the main stage.  
2910

2911 Chair Reckdahl: Our guess is fall timeframe.  
2912

2913 Mr. Jensen: No, I'm going to say summer, June probably.  
2914

2915 Vice Chair Markevitch: You don't have the dates up for that?  
2916

2917 Mr. Jensen: No, I do not.  
2918

2919 Commissioner Ashlund: We have the dates up for the Master Plan retreat?  
2920

2921 Commissioner Hetterly: We do.  
2922

2923 Commissioner Ashlund: We do?  
2924

2925 Commissioner Knopper: We do. We've got a Google (inaudible).

2926  
2927 Mr. Jensen: That was something Robin and I were talking about. Instead of having a  
2928 separate retreat meeting like this one, use the majority of our next April meeting to do the  
2929 Master Plan, basically do it at our scheduled meeting. Currently the agenda has a Byxbee  
2930 Park trails item on it, and (crosstalk) ...

2931  
2932 Mr. Anderson: Hold for April?

2933  
2934 Mr. Jensen: Yes. Then the Parks Master Plan. It has two items basically. If we want to  
2935 have it and segment it out a 2 1/2 hour segment or a 2 hour segment, or we just do the  
2936 Master Plan stuff as a retreat. Daren can do his thing at the beginning. We'll move into  
2937 the Master Plan thing and we'll just do it on the meeting night instead of having a totally  
2938 separate meeting. That's a possibility. That's for you guys to discuss though, what you'd  
2939 like to do.

2940  
2941 Commissioner Crommie: As long as we don't have a backlog of any other important  
2942 stuff coming through the pipeline. Is there anything that ...

2943  
2944 Mr. Jensen: No. The only thing is the Byxbee Park trail (inaudible).

2945  
2946 Mr. Anderson: And this fire memo.

2947  
2948 Commissioner Knopper: I like that idea.

2949  
2950 Chair Reckdahl: Let's talk after the meeting on Tuesday.

2951  
2952 Commissioner Hetterly: Once we've looked at our binders. We can take them home  
2953 today, right?

2954  
2955 Mr. Jensen: Yes, you can. Or we can start practicing that stuff inside of it.

2956  
2957 Chair Reckdahl: One more topic. Rob talked to me about this. We had the Junior  
2958 Museum discussion last week, and I'm going to step on some toes. People were irritated  
2959 with that and pushed back about the use encroaching into the park. (inaudible)

2960  
2961 Vice Chair Markevitch: That's our goal: protect the parks.

2962  
2963 Chair Reckdahl: The (inaudible) is that this is parkland and it is an appropriate use for  
2964 parkland. That was their thinking. Just because this is a (inaudible) doesn't preclude  
2965 them from using parkland. It's not like we're losing parkland. We're just using parkland  
2966 for something else.

2968 Commissioner Crommie: (crosstalk) makes any sense to me.  
2969

2970 Chair Reckdahl: My response is we want to have our cake and eat it too. We love the  
2971 Junior Museum. We think everything's great, but we just want to see them do everything  
2972 they can to stay within the existing footprint. At that point, if we're convinced that they  
2973 can't fit into the footprint, then we would consider going into the park. Does that  
2974 correspond to other people's views? One of the questions was, would it be useful for us  
2975 to have a tour of the Junior Museum and talk to them and see what they'd need?  
2976

2977 Mr. Jensen: I would suggest that it doesn't have to be a tour where you could show up.  
2978 That could be something like a meeting. I did suggest to John Akin that they start to  
2979 spray paint or stake out there where they are proposing how far it pushes, so you can  
2980 develop the rendering of that side of the zoo and see it better and how it relates to the  
2981 park. It will help to stand in the space and see how big it is out there or what that area is.  
2982 Like I said, that area of the park is not any usable space.  
2983

2984 Chair Reckdahl: What I told Rob is that I'm not concerned about the usable space right  
2985 now, but 30 years from now as the population grows and our parklands don't grow. I'm  
2986 concerned that we have all these straws on the back of a camel growing and everyone  
2987 taking 10 feet here and 10 feet there. We may have some decisions that we regret.  
2988

2989 Commissioner Lauing: I'll answer your question. First of all, we can't be muzzled on  
2990 something that has to do with parks. That's not in the feedback. We have to be stewards  
2991 of the park. Anytime that there's incremental usage or even a review of reconstruction  
2992 and they're already on parks, we have to consider what other uses 5, 10, 15, 20 years.  
2993 There couldn't be anything that's more in our jurisdiction than this type of thing.  
2994

2995 Mr. Jensen: I think your question is about encroachment into the park and the size of it.  
2996 Those are legitimate questions. That's what you should be asking them. That's the whole  
2997 process.  
2998

2999 Commissioner Lauing: Right. Some of the questions that I asked and others asked is do  
3000 we need that much office space in there? Can that be separate or smaller or maybe  
3001 (crosstalk)?  
3002

3003 Vice Chair Markevitch: Two stories.  
3004

3005 Commissioner Lauing: Or storage or some of the outbuilding places. I don't know the  
3006 answer because I'm not the expert. They can work on that. You can work on that. If it's  
3007 going to be a wish list, which in my judgment that's what I see right now is a wish list and  
3008 a two story and all that, then I'd make a radical question of did you consider other places  
3009 for it? It's a wonderful, wonderful resource, a unique one, for Palo Alto. If you can't

3010 really shoehorn that wish list in there, then what else can you do to fix that a little bit?  
3011 There's the whole size of the design, which the Architectural Review Board looked at this  
3012 week and they were not very pleased with the actual architecture. They gave a pushback  
3013 on that, changing the size and the kind of lacquer. It was in the *Weekly* this morning.  
3014

3015 Mr. Jensen: They want it to be more playful. Their comments were based on the façade  
3016 and the way that the exterior façade looked. They thought they were laid out okay. One  
3017 of them suggested pushing further into the park. If they needed more room, that would  
3018 mean that they (crosstalk).  
3019

3020 Council Member Filseth: (crosstalk) just on the procedure here. I think what you said is  
3021 right. I think that's what I expect the Architectural Review Board to look at in terms of  
3022 the design. I actually am not sure who in the City looks at the site, because on  
3023 commercial projects the ARB doesn't have okay. The Planning and Transportation  
3024 Commission doesn't seem like the corporeal body in this case. I think it's between the  
3025 staff (inaudible). This group, like you said, this is the sweet spot of parks and rec issues.  
3026 We all like John Akin. He's a big vision guy. It's all well and good to ask him to go and  
3027 see if he can use a little less park space and so forth. Either of which is (inaudible). This  
3028 group is going to have to decide (inaudible) or not.  
3029

3030 Vice Chair Markevitch: I also suspect we were the first group to push back. Everybody  
3031 else was, "Oh, this is great." We were the first ones to do it. If they get upset, that's just  
3032 too bad. I'm not insulted by it at all.  
3033

3034 Mr. Jensen: I don't think they're upset in any type of way. That's why I (crosstalk).  
3035 That's why the exhibits that you were looking at did show all those things. That was not  
3036 really a part of the original things that you guys were supposed to look at. I thought you  
3037 should see the footprint now, the footprint overlaid with the new (inaudible) related to the  
3038 property lines. Those things are in your purview. Your purview really is to say, "Yes,  
3039 you can't have that piece of parkland." They have to do more due diligence to prove that  
3040 that is a legitimate thing, to push the parkland.  
3041

3042 Commissioner Knopper: I liked your suggestion, Peter, that they stake out or spray out  
3043 (crosstalk) ...  
3044

3045 Mr. Jensen: That would definitely help out (crosstalk).  
3046

3047 Commissioner Knopper: ... would help. To the ARB's point that having that façade, that  
3048 wall thing. It was very imposing, office-like, facing the park. From a design perspective,  
3049 again this is probably not our purview, but they have some sort of exhibit facing out to  
3050 the park that kids can interact with on that portion. They need to start thinking out of the  
3051 box like that, so maybe it becomes part of the park activity, whatever is happening on that

3052 back wall. Maybe the BOT, the advising body, we would say, "Oh, okay, we see this  
3053 because this now has added value to the park."  
3054

3055 Mr. Jensen: That is the one key aspect of the design of the zoo as proposed now. It does  
3056 connect itself visually to the park, which currently it does not. Currently, it just looks  
3057 like it could be someone's house back over there by the fence. That was a main idea of  
3058 the long range plan, how do we communicate what these amenities are around the park so  
3059 people understand that those things are there. Developing that and understanding what  
3060 happens along that façade or veneer of the zoo and how the bathroom building and the  
3061 back of house building all work, how it interrelates to the park itself. It needs to be  
3062 explored more and developed more. If it is going to push in there more, then there are  
3063 things that we can look at to make it look like it's more seamless into the park, so you're  
3064 maybe not losing more space there. Maybe there's more green roofs on that side that you  
3065 can access somehow or something like that.  
3066

3067 Commissioner Ashlund: Peter, that design's not set in stone at this point, right?  
3068

3069 Mr. Jensen: No, it is not. This is just going through the process of the design. All our  
3070 feedback (crosstalk).  
3071

3072 Commissioner Ashlund: Did they hear our feedback that we'd like to see alternative  
3073 proposals that maybe used less park space, ideally no park space. Are we asking them to  
3074 do that? Are they willing to do that or are they just saying we're meanies?  
3075

3076 Mr. Jensen: I think they're now going to develop plans that look at how they can reduce  
3077 the impact into the park. That's definitely one of the things that they got here.  
3078

3079 Commissioner Crommie: To me it comes down to this idea of "we're using up park  
3080 space, so we're going to mitigate it by making something slightly interactive on the back  
3081 of the building." To me, that doesn't cut it. What really cuts it is an alternative plan that  
3082 doesn't use up as much space. You can have your one plan that uses up the space and  
3083 then you mitigate it by making that connection.  
3084

3085 Mr. Jensen: Again, it's about looking at what that space is used for now. You can't lose  
3086 sight of the fact that that space is (crosstalk).  
3087

3088 Commissioner Crommie: I don't buy that argument. Even if it's not being used now, that  
3089 doesn't mean it can't be used.  
3090

3091 Commissioner Ashlund: Open space is valuable in its own right.  
3092

APPROVED

3093 Commissioner Crommie: Yes. You can always envision uses for space. By just saying  
3094 it's not used now; therefore, we should use it for this building, that's not a valid argument.  
3095 Also the argument that we're just doing more park activities in the park, so let us come  
3096 into your park, that's a different use of the land to have a building on it.  
3097

3098 Mr. Jensen: Yes, the part that they're expanding to. The Zoo sites in the park, so that is  
3099 part of the park.  
3100

3101 Commissioner Crommie: We understand that. I understand that it sites in the park, but it  
3102 doesn't mean that it just has carte blanche opportunity to go further into the park, just  
3103 because it already sits there.  
3104

3105 Vice Chair Markevitch: This isn't the right body to be talking to.  
3106

3107 Commissioner Hetterly: We have 8 minutes left. Are we done with the agenda?  
3108

3109 Chair Reckdahl: I think we're done with everything except this list.  
3110

3111 Mr. Jensen: They are going to develop more plans and respond to your comments about  
3112 the expansion into the park.  
3113

3114 Commissioner Knopper: Since we're talking about Rinconada Park. I was walking by  
3115 there the other day. There was a temporary structure built. It was like a ...  
3116

3117 Mr. Jensen: Greenhouse?  
3118

3119 Commissioner Knopper: Yeah, or a ...  
3120

3121 Mr. Jensen: A sustainable house?  
3122

3123 Commissioner Knopper: Right. This sign says, "Oh, people 2012" or whatever. Why is  
3124 it just sitting there empty now?  
3125

3126 Mr. Anderson: I think they're just looking for a place to use it. I had heard a bunch of  
3127 different ideas thrown about. I don't know the current status on it. We can follow up and  
3128 get back to you.  
3129

3130 Commissioner Knopper: Yeah. It looks dumpy and unloved. It's just there.  
3131

3132 Vice Chair Markevitch: (inaudible) how to put things in the binder?  
3133

3134 Mr. Jensen: Yes. These are your binders. They're tabbed to the different sections that  
3135 correlate to that matrix that we were talking about. Some of the sections don't have  
3136 anything in them yet, like prioritization workshops don't have anything for their tab. I'm  
3137 going to give you, which I think you've received already as far as the packet goes, the  
3138 survey summary information. I've got that printed out here. I don't know what section  
3139 that is. Section 10. If you look at the sheets in the front, the numbers tell you what each  
3140 section is.

3141  
3142 Commissioner Lauing: Survey results 14?  
3143

3144 Mr. Jensen: Yes, 14 is (inaudible). It took some time to put together. All day yesterday,  
3145 I had two people in my office building them. Let's just pass it around and you guys can  
3146 add it in there. The green binders are easier to use than the white binders because of the  
3147 mechanism of the clip. You're supposed to be putting this in Tab 14.  
3148

3149 Commissioner Hetterly: While we're doing this, if we're done with the regular agenda,  
3150 (crosstalk).  
3151

3152 Chair Reckdahl: We are done with the agenda unless ...  
3153

3154 Commissioner Hetterly: I just wanted to raise the Brown Act. I don't know how recently  
3155 you've had Brown Act training. A very tricky area of the Brown Act is the serial meeting  
3156 issue. There's been a lot of confusion for the Commissioners about how that works. I  
3157 just wanted to remind everybody to go to your training. Also at serial meetings where  
3158 you run into trouble is you can't talk to more than two other Commissioners about any  
3159 particular topic that's in our jurisdiction.  
3160

3161 Mr. Jensen: Everyone's got 14?  
3162

3163 None.  
3164

3165 **V. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
3166

3167 None.  
3168

3169 **VI. ADJOURNMENT**  
3170

3171 Meeting adjourned at 2:45pm.