



SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 12, 2018  
6:30pm

**El Cerrito City Hall  
Council Chambers  
10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Recreation Department at (510) 559-7000. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. (28 CFT 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II).

1. **Roll Call**

**Present:** Chair – David Zuckermann, Ben Chuaqui, Art Machado, Tara McIntire, Robin Mitchell, and Jun Sunseri

**Absent:** Norman LaForce

2. **Oral Communications from The Public**

*All persons wishing to speak should sign up with City Staff. Remarks are generally limited to 3 minutes per person. Please state your name and city of residence for the record. Comments related to non-agenda items will be heard first. Comments related to items appearing on the agenda are taken up at the time the Park and Recreation Commission deliberates each item.*

Al Miller, resident of El Cerrito, on a recent bike ride on the Ohlone Greenway observed a lot of pedestrians and bicyclists along the Albany and El Cerrito corridor. He saw only one other person on the Richmond side of the bike path past Carlson and 23<sup>rd</sup> Street.

He recommended landscaping that allows for greater visibility at street crossings for both path users and street traffic.

Molly Ong, resident of El Cerrito, suggested residents plant fruit trees along the Greenway to increase its usage. She said Albany citizens are encouraged to grow fruit trees along Greenway.

3. **Council/Staff Liaison Announcements and Reports**

Staff and/or Councilmember Abelson may report on matters of general interest to the Park and Recreation Commission, Council policies, priorities and significant actions taken by the City Council.

Councilmember Abelson was not present at the meeting, no report given

4. **Approval of Minutes:** Exhibit 1: Meeting Minutes from July 25, 2018

Approval of the July 25, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes.

**Action:** Moved, seconded (Sunseri/McIntire) and carried unanimously

5. **City Plans & Policies Related to Parks & Recreation Facilities Master Plan:** Melanie Mintz, Community Development Director

Review of City policies and plans that relate and/or compliment the El Cerrito Parks & Recreation Facilities Master Plan. Focus will be on the Urban Greening Plan and San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan.

Presenter: Melanie Mintz, Community Development Director

Comments and questions from the Commissioners were received, discussed and answered.

**Action:** Presentation received.

6. **El Cerrito Parks & Recreation Facilities Master Plan Public Draft**

Review and discussion of the Parks & Recreation Facilities Master Plan Public Draft with possible recommendation for approval by the City Council. The Master Plan Public Draft and background information can be found online at [www.el-cerrito.org/parksmpl](http://www.el-cerrito.org/parksmpl).

Presenters:

Barbara Lundberg, RHAA Principal

Lauren Ivey, RHAA Project Manager

Doug Svenson, ADE President

Presentation received. Comments and questions from the Commissioners were received, discussed and answered.

Speakers:

Howdy Goudey, resident of El Cerrito, commented on the proposed Master Plan. He noted that the description of the Community Garden did not include the community input from initial planning phases, where there was interest in keeping this an open park. It is important for that area to be welcoming and open.

He also stated that it is important to think about recreation and parks in areas near San Pablo Avenue, which are densely populated. The Ohlone Greenway is an important park but will always be underneath a train. New developments may show indoor gyms and concrete, but that does not replace the need for parks. He suggested a focus on urban greening.

He also commented on the funding sources outlined. He cautioned that a property transfer tax may be projected to be \$3 million per year, but is not guaranteed because of real estate cycles.

He also asked if all of the large dollar amounts in the report number actually included land allocation and new parks.

**Action:** Moved, seconded (Mitchell/McIntire) approved unanimously with following conditions:

1. Resolve how the information in table three is presented with how it is described on page 24
2. Make sure Table 2 in Appendix D is accurate and correctly references the details that they are supposed to represent and include all of the same categories
3. Change Community Garden information on 118-119 to reflect actual arrangement with El Cerrito Garden Network or remove as a project type
4. Clarify Appendix I scoring relative to Appendix E
5. Cross referencing park section in 5.3 to priorities in Appendices E & I
6. Include a flow chart of the relationship between Appendices D, E & I at the beginning of Chapter 5
7. Incorporate clarifying and supporting text and graphics where appropriate to make the document more readable and user friendly
8. Cross check and reevaluate all tables and references
  - a. For example, page 79 – missing Enhancements in the graph at the bottom

9. In chapter 5, clarify that each bullet point has its own budget, but bar graphs on each location sheet are cumulative
10. Have someone who has not been involved in preparation of the document proofread it.

7. **Recreation Department Update**

*Update on items of interest in the Recreation Department*

**Action:** item postponed due to time considerations

8. **Items for Future Agendas**

Christopher Jones, Recreation Director explained that the next regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> falls on the Jewish High Holiday of Sukkot and that the City typically does not hold meetings on major religious holidays. Chair Zuckermann polled the Commission to ask if they would like him to call a special replacement meeting or reconvene in October during the regularly scheduled date. The Commission consensus was to meet next on October 24<sup>th</sup> for their regularly scheduled meeting.

2018-19 Work Plan

Drone presentation by Commissioner McIntire to take place sometime over the Winter.

9. **Meeting Adjournment**