

Meeting Notes
Council District 6

Meeting #1 on Parks Planning and Greenprint Update
September 27, 2006

Summary

Priority Locations

- Fire Station Property
- Barreck Property
- Freeway Park
- Build a lake?
- Sherman Oaks Neighborhood
- Del Monte Site
- Landbanking program
- Fairgrounds
- VTA site on Sunol

Types of Use

- Athletic fields for kids – they get kicked off by adults
- Acquatics
- Children's play equipment
- Rebuild garage into park
- Gymnasium
- Activities for Seniors at Bascom
- Shared space/time restrictions for dogs as opposed to separate parks, revise ordinances
- Bathrooms at parks for kids
- Computer classes

Programmatic

- Public Safety Programs
- Maintenance is not good
- Schools – don't count them
- Associations, PTAs, HOAs to maintain parks
- Collaborate with schools
- Creative scheduling of existing sites

Detailed Notes

1. Fire Station location should be on list for the park and 17 acre Barec property in Santa Clara
2. Barec property is priority – stretch the envelope and use agriculture prices
3. 280 Freeway Park – make sure that it is still alive
4. Priority – Fire Station area a place where are children can play baseball and soccer – not pro athletic field; Measure A – need to get property at agricultural price, not residential. Since property
5. 1) Aquatics program. There have been no meetings in Council District 6. Have zero year round programs. 3 deaths of children so far this year. Tough decision and also a public safety issue. We need adequate public safety programs; (2) pace at which parks are being built is excruciating. Cahill has no children's equipment. New kids moving in and school

district is removing equipment from Hester. Would like to have no more housing until parks are built for the new residents.

6. outside the box idea: swimming venue – the city historically created a lake at the confluence. Why swim at a pool when we can swim at the beach? What about parks on top of some buildings and parking garages? This county is full of giant parking lots and tilt ups. Need to free up flat land. Use government powers to rebuild garages and turn into a park.
7. If we can't maintain the parks we have it is a waste of money. City council has to figure out a way to maintain these parks before we acquire more parks. Cahill park is a disaster, has been flooding. Need to improve existing parks that we have. Applaud staff but not enough of them to maintain parks.
8. Some of us live in an area that doesn't have any parks – Sherman Oaks neighborhood and elementary school. Greenprint is wrong about stating that there aren't many young people in apartments. City college is nearby but has restricted access. Good that the new center is on Bascom. Aren't enough places to play on Sherman Oaks field, especially for kids in Richmond-Menker apts who are getting kicked off the fields. Unfair that certain groups paid to use field and kids got kicked off. Need to build the park over the freeway. Perfect location right where the kids are.
9. Schools.... why are they counted for credible park acreage? Freeway park would take a big chunk out of deficit. Buena Vista NA is taking an active role in maintaining the park. Need to look at alternative methods of having associations take care of parks in the future. Community input is good. But need to make sure that community is listened to. O'Connor park turned out to be a disaster, don't waste community's time. Need some truth in this process. Minorities, disenfranchised, non voters were overridden at O'Connor Park.
10. There are communities and HOA's that are more than willing to help out with the maintenance of parks. (planning and parks/recreation subcommission)
11. In calculation for 3.5 acres/1000. Is City college and Del Mar, etc. included?
12. Are there certain parks with restrictions with kids playing soccer on the field for league play?
13. In District 6 at old Del Monte site, KB homes project on Auzerais. What is status? Need to make sure that we acquire the land for the 12+ areas that was designated as open space?
14. Adopt a park program has been proven to be successful. May consider to use some of these meetings to do outreach on adopt a park programs at future meetings.
15. Suggestions - (1) upgrade and maintain existing parks; (2) collaborate with school sites; (3) continue to schedule as many people as possible on upgraded and existing sites; (4) adopt a park program is extraordinary. It should be taken to the next step.
16. Need to benchmark 3.5 acres/1000 versus other cities. What is process for updating greenprint. Need to make sure that everyone's input is taken into account. Suggestion on outreach – need to go to Farmer's markets. Where do things stand right now regarding sharing space for dog recreation based upon times of day. How do we share space more intelligently. Fee based usage for celebrations to raise more money which will at least let us cleanup after these events.
17. Need to accommodate for all ages of children, not just very young children. Bathrooms.... Del Monte warehouses. It would be great to convert these into basketball courts.
18. Suggestion regarding maintenance. Parents organizations of schools can help since they help so much. Need Dog Parks.
19. Dog Parks, they have been left out. A lot of people don't have kids but the dogs are their kids. Need an area where the animals can have fun. Don't need a new park, just a piece of grass on an existing park. Dogs are part of life, just like kids.
20. Developers putting in money – need to be careful that they aren't putting in private amenities that get counted as parks. Need bathrooms at parks, especially for little kids.
21. Dog park issue – look citywide at off-leash ordinance of dogs in parks. Need to look at changing city ordinance to let dogs run off-leash during certain times on parks.

22. Has the city ever studied between whether developing existing parks more thoroughly better serve people than buying new parks.
23. Helen - #1 thing we are working on right now is the PDO/PIO. Raise to 100% of land values. Need support on 10/24.
24. possible to see computer classes in the community center for all kids no matter what their ages are. The future is today. Need more restrooms and need to keep them clean.
25. City needs a landbanking program that allows private individuals or non profits to help out.
26. Guadalupe River Park was great collaboration. Anything is possible with a lot of collaboration.
27. Do we have a potential acquisition site on VTA storage area on West San Carlos/Sunol. Controlled by VTA.
28. people need to know that there are people in community that support keeping open spaces open (Barec, faigrounds, fire station). Don't lose big pieces of land. Municipal Rose Garden – why can't space be used in more intensive way? More things that can't be done there than can be done... need to think creatively at Rose Garden. Need attention to shared-use dog parks.
29. Mayoral candidate debate tomorrow night – everyone should voice their opinion on parks.
30. kids come up with something to do if we don't give them something and this leads to bad habits, etc... need play spaces. Young kids need facilities that are within reach for them
31. parent – Sherman oaks community. Practice space at Sherman oaks is very limited. Need places for kids to play for those that are paying taxes
32. Del Mar high school – those kids want to use the gym because they don't have access to other gyms in the area.
33. Sherman Oaks – have we confirmed a gym in Bascom?
34. Greenprint, need to think outside box about how people who aren't here can get their priorities heard. What about new people who aren't here yet.
35. Why do Sherman Oaks Seniors need to go to all the way to Willows. Need to make sure that seniors can utilize Bascom.

Meeting Notes
Council District 6
Meeting #2 on Parks Planning and Greenprint Update
November 21, 2006
Fire Training Center

Group #1

A. Community Needs Assessment

1. Scott/Clifton site
2. N. Buena Vista #45 and #65
3. Swimming/aquatics
4. Skate park/BMX
5. Dog park
6. Community gardens
7. Youth programs
8. Education/life science
9. Better relationships between San Jose and Santa Clara
10. Provide real programming
11. Intergenerational facilities
12. Adult fitness
13. Save BAREC
14. More green dots

B. Strategy/Priority Development

1. Better funding to capture land
2. Funding from County
3. Modify count of school property; don't count if can't access
4. Look for outside funding
5. Bring in community
6. Sustainability; recycled materials, solar, etc.
7. Community centers that can be used by the actual community
8. Do trails count as part of park ratio? We say no.

Group #2

A. Community Needs Assessment

1. Park on Bascom (across from the new library)
2. Willow Glen “Town Plaza”: gas station at Willow/Lincoln
3. Fire training site for park
4. Buena Vista at San Carlos
5. Evaluate Los Gatos Creek Trail connection, Meridian/Lincoln
6. Evaluate bike bridge at Cherry; bike lane Cherry (Fruitdale/Pine)
7. Bike lane on Lincoln (Park to Pine)
8. Dog park in Caltrans at Race/I 280
9. Trail-side rest area/pocket park: Willow at Camino Ricardo
10. Swimming pools: Del Mar, City College, Biebrach Park
11. Willow Glen Spur Trail to Kelley Park; trail access to Hwy. 87 trail
12. Los Gatos Creek Trail bridge to Willow (west of Meridian)
13. Improved trail access: Moorpark at Hwy. 17, LG at Auzerais
14. Bike lanes: Fruitdale, Cherry, Thornton Park
15. Bird at Fuller: develop City parcel for park (Gregory neighborhood)
16. School should open parcel at Leigh/Fruitdale
17. Trail access from college bike bridge at I 280 to Scott

B. Strategy/Priority Development

1. Soccer fields
2. Maintenance program
3. Pavement management program for bike lanes

Group #3

A. Community Needs Assessment

1. Del Monte Connery(?) Park: soccer field, basketball, dog walk, kiddie park
2. Agriculture history museum: trailhead, history of Connery Park, restrooms, restaurants
3. Youth and community centers as park partnership: ping pong, recreation center, computers, bio-diversity, bike trail, partnerships (bike shop, flower shop)

B. Strategy/Priority Development

1. Develop partnerships between outreach(?) centers and small businesses with park use
 2. Create revenue, jobs and safety(?) in the park, i.e.(?), bike rental shop or flower shop in park
 3. School pools used for teaching swimming
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Individual

A. Community Needs Assessment

Blank

B. Strategy/Priority Development

1. Scott/Clifton Park
2. Park over I 280
3. Buy as much of BAREC property as possible
4. See about buying #45 and #65 N. Buena Vista Ave. for a park