

Meeting Notes
Council District 3
Meeting #1 on Parks Planning and Greenprint Update
September 19, 2007
San Jose City Hall

A. Community Needs Assessment

- Need self-cleaning bathrooms
- Ryland dog park materials need renovations
- Backesto Park needs restrooms and renovations
- Need more parks in Spartan Keyes
- Need more Park advocacy
- Support Master Plan at St. James Park
- Find the dollars/resources to buy land for parks
- Identify parcels now that we think would be optimal, such as land for Soccer, Roosevelt additional space for parking
- Keep Senior Center in James Park
- Need a Wellness Center
- Need a community center in Rosemary gardens
- Computer lab for persons with disabilities did not occur with SJSU
- Community Centers need to open during the weekends
- Reopen Summer day camp at Watson
- Decline in SJ After School Program
- Need more sports fields
- Need Aquatics – Structure of Merit
- Playground by Columbus Park
- Small parks in the Skyport Area

B. Strategy/Priority Development

- Focus on implementation and dollars and not strategy planning
- Look at public and private partnerships
- Don't re-do vision
- Be careful of what you call a success
- Look to prioritize operating and capital budgets for a higher priority
- Develop private and public partnerships
- More partnership needed with schools
- Overcome the pay to play
- Look at turf fields

C. Trails

- Trails are not completed
- Simple signage would help on Guadalupe River

- Paint on the road to increase usage
- No work on Coyote Creek trail, why?

D. Acquisitions

- Need to identify new lands buy and acquire them now
- 11 acre parcel in D3 in Vendome Area – quad/Coleman/Up/PG&E
- Between First and Fifth streets and 280 and Keyes

E. Other

- How are we capturing the actual progress
- Would you like to have vendors in parks?
- Need to leverage with grant writers
- Need grant writers with SNI. Parks should demand grant writers from RDA to assist SNI capital projects.
- Take creative measures now
- Sell parkland rights (Backesto was purchased but it took 30 years)
- Ask parks to circulate a matrix – weigh in when there is an ideal place for a park in the neighborhood
- How many open sides should a park have? – minimum two sides
- Maintenance – Baseline of maintenance, develop strategies for park maintenance
- NAG to fund projects

F. Regional Parks

- Bring back Alum Rock to its grandeur