

that the open space was critical for residents and liked the addition of the gymnasium facility. Chair Alexander stated it sets a good precedence, similar to the Peterson Middle School field. Commissioner Kenton thought the water cost fee is a reasonable addition. Vice Chair Pasqua felt the plan was well vetted and he was happy with the process.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Chair Alexander III
Vice Chair Pasqua
Commissioner Kenton

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Pochowski

3 14-0372 Approval of the Urban Forest Management Plan

Urban Landscape Manager, Leonard Dunn provided the staff report. He detailed benefits of the Plan; to improve environmental factors by increasing the tree canopy 18% to 20% within Sunnyvale; to improve planning and maintenance of City trees; and to develop a non-profit group to foster community support. The Plan doesn't account for financial commitments, which would be individually approved by Council as they arise. He answered commissioner questions regarding the types of services the non-profit would provide, who would take responsible for tree roots that intrude upon sewer lines, the current ordinance about residents pruning street trees, requirements about trees in parking lots and how they are measured, and if the Planning Commission will review the Plan.

Chair Alexander opened the public hearing.

Deborah Marks expressed support to approve the plan Urban Forest Management Plan specifically to improve the canopy cover of the City, and because it provides for a volunteer group to educate the public about the importance of trees and how to take care of them.

There were no further public comments, and Chair Alexander closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Kenton moved to approve Alternative 1) Approve adoption of the Urban Forestry Management Plan. Vice Chair Pasqua seconded the motion.

Commissioners provided the rationale for their vote. Vice Chair Pasqua is in favor of the plan and the environmental benefits an expanded tree canopy will provide.

Commissioner Kenton appreciates the beautiful trees in Sunnyvale, and feels the plan is comprehensive. Chair Alexander has observed the impact of the drought on trees in our parks, he thinks this plan is timely and provides an important focus for future planning.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Chair Alexander III
Vice Chair Pasqua
Commissioner Kenton

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Pochowski

4 14-0779 Propose Study Issues

Superintendent Wax provided an overview of the study issue process and answered Commissioner questions regarding the timeline to propose study issues. He also provided an update on the park policy and user fee study issue suggested by former Commissioner Harms last year and ranked by Council during this years Study Issue Workshop. There were no study issues proposed at this time.

Chair Alexander opened the public hearing. There were no public comments and he closed the public hearing.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS & COMMENTS

-Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Kenton reported on the tennis competition at the Sunnyvale Municipal Tennis Center at Las Palmas Park on August 8-10. It was a successful event and well organized.

Chair Alexander inquired about the commissioner recruitment process. Superintendent Wax reported that applications were due on August 8, 2014 and Council is scheduled to conduct interviews on September 16, 2014.

Commissioner Kenton emphasized the importance of conserving water. Director Steffens commented that an Information Only report was provided to Council on August 12, detailing the plan to achieve 15% water reduction in parks and the impact on the appearance and functionality of parks.

-Staff Comments

Superintendent Wax provided the following information: