



# City of Sunnyvale

## Meeting Minutes - Draft Parks and Recreation Commission

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Wednesday, September 10, 2025

7:00 PM

Online and Redwood Conference Room,  
City Hall, 456 W. Olive Ave., Sunnyvale,  
CA 94086

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kesting called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Chair Kesting led the salute to the United States flag.

### **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 4 - Chair David Kesting  
Vice Chair Dona Mason  
Commissioner Daniel Bremond  
Commissioner Prashant Gattani  
**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Prakash Giri

Council Liaison Cisneros (absent)

### **STUDY SESSION**

**A**      [25-0225](#)      Gather Input on East Channel Trail Alternatives

Esther Jung, Traffic Engineer, provided a presentation on the East Channel Trail Study. Highlights included: background of the study, opportunities and constraints, project goals, outreach efforts, and timeline.

Commissioners inquired about next steps if the project receives funding, and the current phase of the project.

Staff explained that the study addresses the challenges, requirements, and costs associated with the project. Findings will be presented to the City Council for direction on moving the phases forward. Because the trail spans nearly six miles, funding will not cover the entire project at once. Instead, the project will be rolled out in sections, with priorities still under discussion.

Staff also noted that Phase Two (outreach) has just begun.

Additional questions included whether the project will be impacted by major infrastructure such as Caltrain, and whether there will be a dedicated bicycle path. Staff responded that all relevant agencies have already been informed and have provided feedback. The trail will be a paved, multi-use path for walking and biking, with separate areas designated for each.

Chair Kesting opened public comment.

Donna (Zoom attendee) expressed concerns about residents whose backyards border the channel, particularly regarding how the City will address safety impacts of the proposed trail.

Chair Kesting closed public comment.

**B**      [25-0856](#)      Tree Program

Travis Rios, Urban Landscape Manager, provided a presentation on the State of the Urban Forest. Highlights included: current climate in Sunnyvale, Urban Heat Island Index, climate change and new pests, adaptation in a changing environment, upcoming projects, and study issues.

Commissioners asked about trees that are at high risk for damaging property.

Staff responded that each tree is unique, and residents may contact the Parks Department to request an inspection. While some trees may cause damage, this is an inherent reality of trees. The benefits of maintaining large trees outweigh the risks, and in many cases, mitigation measures can reduce potential damage. Staff emphasized the importance of preserving large trees for as long as possible.

Additionally, commissioners asked various questions about street trees and the possible benefits of more fruit trees. Staff explained that regarding street trees and canopy, efforts to increase canopy involve a combination of preservation, and strategic new plantings. On the subject of fruit trees, staff noted that while they can provide benefits, important considerations remain, such as who will be responsible for maintenance.

**C**      [25-0857](#)      Preliminary Discussion of 2026 Master Work Plan

Commissioners and staff held a preliminary discussion regarding the Parks and Recreation Commission Master Work Plan for 2026. Tentative additions include future updates on the turf study, the dogs-off-leash study, pickle ball, as well as scheduling a park tour.

### **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Vice Chair Mason moved and Chair Kesting seconded the motion to approve the consent calendar.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes:** 4 - Chair Kesting  
Vice Chair Mason  
Commissioner Bremond  
Commissioner Gattani

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Giri

- 1      [25-0865](#)      Approve the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of July 9, 2025

Approve the Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes of July 9, 2025 as submitted.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS**

- 2      [25-0864](#)      Annual Review of Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials

Commissioner Bremond moved and Chair Kesting seconded the motion to approve the annual review of the code of ethics for appointed officials.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes:** 4 - Chair Kesting  
Vice Chair Mason  
Commissioner Bremond  
Commissioner Gattani

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Giri

**STANDING ITEM: CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL STUDY ISSUES**

**3**      [25-0867](#)      Comprehensive Field and Park Usage Data Collection

Chair Kesting ran through the proposed study issue.

Commissioner Bremond moved and Chair Kesting seconded the motion to adopt the proposed study issue.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes:** 4 -    Chair Kesting  
                 Vice Chair Mason  
                 Commissioner Bremond  
                 Commissioner Gattani

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Giri

**NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS**

**-Commissioner Comments**

None.

**-Staff Comments**

Jim Stark announced that outreach for Heritage Orchard park begins on September 17th.

**INFORMATION ONLY REPORTS/ITEMS**

**4**      [25-0859](#)      Parks and Recreation Commission Proposed Study Issues,  
                                 Calendar Year: 2026

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Kesting adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.