



City of Sunnyvale

Notice and Agenda Parks and Recreation Commission

Wednesday, January 11, 2023

7:00 PM

Telepresence Meeting: City Web Stream

Meeting Online Link: <https://sunnyvale-ca-gov.zoom.us/j/94819997080>

Special Teleconference Notice

Because of the COVID-19 emergency and the health orders issued by Santa Clara County and the State of California, this meeting of the Sunnyvale Parks and Recreation Commission will take place by teleconference, as allowed by Government Code Subdivision 54953(e) and Resolution No. 1089-21 (reaffirmed December 13, 2022).

Public Participation

- *Teleconference participation: You may provide audio public comment by connecting to the teleconference meeting online or by telephone. Use the Raise Hand feature to request to speak (*9 on a telephone):*

Meeting online link: <https://sunnyvale-ca-gov.zoom.us/j/94819997080>

Meeting call-in telephone number: 833-548-0276 | Meeting ID: 948 1999 7080

*(*9 to request to speak | *6 to unmute/mute)*

- *Watch the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting at:
<http://youtube.com/SunnyvaleMeetings>*
- *Submit written comments to the Parks and Recreation Commission no later than 4 hours prior to the meeting start to
parksandrecreationcommission@sunnyvale.ca.gov or by mail to City Clerk, 603 All America Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94086*
- *Review recordings of this meeting and past meetings at
<https://sunnyvaleca.legistar.com/calendar.aspx> or
<http://youtube.com/SunnyvaleMeetings>*

Accessibility/Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Notice

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if you need special

assistance to provide public comment, or for other special assistance; please contact the City at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. ADA contact: Angela Chan may be reached at 408-730-7599 or ncs@sunnyvale.ca.gov (28 CFR 35.160 (b) (1)).

CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order via teleconference.

ROLL CALL

PRESENTATION

A [23-0136](#) Capital Improvements Project Update

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

This category provides an opportunity for members of the public to address the Parks and Recreation Commission on items not listed on the agenda and is limited to 15 minutes (may be extended or continued after the public hearings/general business section of the agenda at the discretion of the Chair) with a maximum of up to three minutes per speaker. Please note the Brown Act (Open Meeting Law) does not allow the Parks and Recreation Commission to take action on an item not listed on the agenda. If you wish to address the Parks and Recreation Commission, please refer to the notice at the beginning of this agenda. Individuals are limited to one appearance during this section.

CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed on the consent calendar are considered to be routine and will be acted upon by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If a member of the public would like a consent calendar item pulled and discussed separately, please refer to the notice at the beginning of this agenda.

1 [23-0188](#) Approve the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2022

Recommendation: Approve the Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes of December 14, 2022 as submitted.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

If you wish to speak to a public hearing/general business item, please refer to

notice at the beginning of this agenda. Each speaker is limited to a maximum of three minutes.

2 [23-0190](#) Rank 2023 Study Issues

STANDING ITEM: CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL STUDY ISSUES

NON-AGENDA ITEMS & COMMENTS

-Commissioner Comments

-Staff Comments

INFORMATION ONLY REPORTS/ITEMS

3 [23-0189](#) Parks and Recreation Commission Proposed Study Issues,
Calendar Year: 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Notice to the Public:

Any agenda related writings or documents distributed to members of this meeting body regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the originating department or can be accessed through the Office of the City Clerk located at 603 All America Way, during normal business hours and in the Council Chamber on the evening of the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting, pursuant to Government Code §54957.5.

Agenda information is available by contacting Ricky Le at 408-730-7336 or rle@sunnyvale.ca.gov. Agendas and associated reports are also available on the City's website at sunnyvale.ca.gov or at the One-Stop Desk, City Hall, 456 W. Olive Ave., Sunnyvale, CA, 72 hours before the Meeting.



City of Sunnyvale

Agenda Item

23-0136

Agenda Date: 1/11/2023

Capital Improvements Project Update



City of Sunnyvale

Agenda Item

23-0188

Agenda Date: 1/11/2023

SUBJECT

Approve the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2022

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes of December 14, 2022 as submitted.



City of Sunnyvale

Meeting Minutes - Draft Parks and Recreation Commission

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

7:00 PM

Telepresence Meeting: City Web Stream

CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to Government Code Subdivision 54953(e), the meeting was conducted telephonically; pursuant to state law, the City Council made the necessary findings by adopting Resolution No. 1089-21, reaffirmed on November 29, 2022.

Chair Giri called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. via teleconference.

ROLL CALL

Present: 4 - Chair Prakash Giri
Vice Chair Gregory Dibb
Commissioner Daniel Bremond
Commissioner David Kesting
Absent: 1 - Commissioner Dona Mason

Commissioner Mason (excused absence)
Council Liaison Cisneros (absent)

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Commissioner Bremond moved and Commissioner Giri seconded the motion to approve the Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes of October 12, 2022 as submitted.

Yes: 4 - Chair Giri
Vice Chair Dibb
Commissioner Bremond
Commissioner Kesting

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Mason

- 1 [22-1089](#) Approve the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2022

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

- 2 [22-0881](#) Recommend to City Council Approval of the Conceptual Design for the Community Center Grounds Renovation Project

Marlon Quiambao, Senior Engineer, and Verde Design presented on the Conceptual Design for the Community Center Grounds Renovation Project.

Commissioners inquired and staff responded:

Would ping pong or corn hole equipment be made available to the public at the Recreation Center? Currently members of the public would need to bring their own equipment, but staff can look into it.

Did the City consider adding a water feature to the renovation? During the outreach meetings the public did not request a water feature.

Are there concerns about kids playing near the pond? There are landscape buffer areas in between the pond and the playground area.

Regarding the grade differential from the Cultural Arts Center to the lower pond, does the analysis include a section cut in the plans? Staff included in early analysis, but did not include in the agenda packet. Verde Design staff can share with the Commission.

Commissioner Bremond moved and Vice Chair Dibb seconded the motion to approve Alternative 1: Recommend that City Council Approve the Preferred Concept Plan as shown on Attachment 6 of the report.

Yes: 4 - Chair Giri
 Vice Chair Dibb
 Commissioner Bremond
 Commissioner Kesting

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Mason

- 3 [22-1086](#) Annual Review and Acceptance - Code of Ethics

Vice Chair Dibb moved and Commissioner Kesting seconded the motion to review

and accept the Code of Ethics. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Chair Giri
Vice Chair Dibb
Commissioner Bremond
Commissioner Kesting

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Mason

4 [22-1088](#) Review and Approve 2022 Master Work Plan

Commissioner Kesting moved and Commissioner Bremond seconded the motion to approve the 2023 Master Work Plan. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Chair Giri
Vice Chair Dibb
Commissioner Bremond
Commissioner Kesting

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Mason

STANDING ITEM: CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL STUDY ISSUES

Commissioner Kesting inquired on why field lights aren't on in the evenings. He noted that the public would benefit from being able to use the fields throughout the night. Chair Giri added that the City could initiate a pilot program.

Jim Stark responded that fields are lit by permit only. Additionally, the City would need to conduct a community outreach meeting as activating field lights daily might cause issues with the neighboring homes due to the brightness.

Damon added that fields are not reservable during the winter season to allow the field to rest. Staff can connect with David offline to discuss further.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS & COMMENTS

-Commissioner Comments

Vice Chair Dibb asked how members of the public could report issues with fields. Jim Stark informed the Commission that staff inspect fields daily, and that members of the public can submit a request on the City website via the Access Sunnyvale webpage.

-Staff Comments

None.

INFORMATION ONLY REPORTS/ITEMS

- 5 [22-1090](#) Parks and Recreation Commission Proposed Study Issues,
Calendar Year: 2024

Standing item. No study issues approved in previous meeting were proposed.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Giri adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p.m.



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Rank 2023 Study Issues



City of Sunnyvale

Agenda Item

23-0099

Agenda Date: 2/16/2023

2023 COUNCIL STUDY ISSUE

NUMBER

DPW 20-03

TITLE Waste Reduction Initiative in Sunnyvale Parks

BACKGROUND

Lead Department: Department of Public Works
Support Departments: Environmental Services Department
Office of the City Manager
Office of the City Attorney
Sponsor(s): Parks and Recreation Commission
History: 1 year ago: Ranked, Below the Line
2 years ago: Deferred by Council

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

What precipitated this Study?

By creating opportunities to recycle in public spaces, municipalities can capture more materials for recycling, create and support a culture of recycling, and demonstrate the value of recycling materials. As a city, Sunnyvale has an opportunity to lead efforts to reduce garbage going to the landfill. Recreation Services and Parks staff regularly receive requests from residents and parks users to add recycling capabilities in Sunnyvale parks.

What are the key elements of the Study?

This Study will consider the impact of separating waste (i.e., plastic, aluminum cans, food scraps, etc.) in Sunnyvale's public parks. The Study will analyze the fiscal impacts to both the operations and capital outlay required to separate waste at the park site rather than downstream at the Sunnyvale Materials Recovery and Transfer Station. The Study will also analyze the potential positive benefits, economic and social, of separating park waste on-site rather than further down the stream.

Estimated years to complete Study: 1 year

FISCAL IMPACT

Cost to Conduct Study

Level of staff effort required (opportunity cost): Moderate
Funding Required for Non-Budgeted Costs: \$50,000
Funding Source: Will seek budget supplement

The cost associated with the Study is to hire a waste management consultant to evaluate current

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practices regarding waste generated in parks and to provide cost estimates to separate recyclables at park sites. The consultant will also be expected to provide feedback on potential benefits of separating waste at parks. The level of effort is considered moderate as staff and management will be meeting with the consultant to advise on current practices, use of current infrastructure and other various challenges at each park site in the City.

Cost to Implement Study Results

Unknown. Study would include assessment of potential costs, including capital and operating, as well as revenue/savings.

EXPECTED CITY COUNCIL, BOARD OR COMMISSION PARTICIPATION

Council-Approved Work Plan: No

Council Study Session: Yes

Reviewed by Boards/Commissions: Parks and Recreation Commission

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Support. This policy issue merits discussion at the 2023 Study Issues Workshop.

Staff supports this Study Issue as it directly relates to the following City's policies and goals:

Council Policy 3.2.1 Solid Waste Management - Goals and Policies

Goal 3.2E. Minimize potential future City liability for wastes generated in the City.

Goal 3.2F. Maintain sound financial strategies and practices that will enable the City to provide comprehensive solid waste management services to the community while keeping refuse rates at or below countywide averages for cities using cost of service pricing.

Prepared by: Jim Stark, Superintendent of Parks and Golf

Reviewed by: Michelle Perera, Director, Library and Recreation Services

Reviewed by: Chip Taylor, Director, Department of Public Works

Reviewed by: Teri Silva, Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Kent Steffens, City Manager



City of Sunnyvale

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2023 COUNCIL STUDY ISSUE

NUMBER

DPW 20-11

TITLE Evaluate Feasibility of Dog Off-leash Hours in Select Sunnyvale Park(s)

BACKGROUND

Lead Department: Department of Public Works

Support Departments: Office of the City Manager
Office of the City Attorney
Library and Recreation Services

Sponsor(s): Parks and Recreation Commission

History: 1 year ago: Ranked, Below the Line
2 years ago: Deferred by Council

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

What precipitated this Study?

A group of residents attended the City Council meeting of February 27, 2020 and the Park and Recreation Commission meetings of October 9, 2019, November 13, 2019, January 8, 2020 and February 12, 2020 requesting off-leash dog hours at one or more City parks. Residents suggested that City parks should have specified hours during the day where the public can let their dogs run off-leash in selected areas. Some of the benefits of increasing accessibility of off-leash dog parks identified by the residents included: promoting good canine health and socialization; building community and decreasing travel to remote dog parks.

Nearby cities, such as Mountain View, Foster City and Cupertino, currently provide off-leash dog hours in selected City parks.

What are the key elements of the Study?

This Study will consider the impact of allowing off-leash dogs during specified hours in City parks. In addition to analyzing the positive benefits of allowing dogs to be off leash, the Study will analyze the potential effect on other park users, such as soccer and little league baseball, the effect on park maintenance and exposure to potential legal liabilities for both the City and residents. The Study will also provide recommendations related to best practices for allowing off-leash dog areas in City parks (e.g., rules, park location, hours, etc.) including a possible pilot project.

Completion of this Study will provide data to assist in evaluating the feasibility of allowing off-leash dog hours in Sunnyvale parks.

Estimated years to complete Study: 1 year

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FISCAL IMPACT

Cost to Conduct Study

Level of staff effort required (opportunity cost):	Moderate
Funding Required for Non-Budgeted Costs:	\$75,000
Funding Source:	Will seek budget supplement

The cost associated with the Study is to hire a consultant to conduct the feasibility study. The level of effort is considered moderate as staff will be facilitating public outreach, meeting with the consultant to advise on current and past practices, reviewing park locations and history, and making any necessary changes to the Sunnyvale Municipal Code. The Study would also include an assessment of potential costs including operating and capital.

Cost to Implement Study Results

Unknown. Study would assess potential costs.

EXPECTED CITY COUNCIL, BOARD OR COMMISSION PARTICIPATION

Council-Approved Work Plan: No

Council Study Session: Yes

Reviewed by Boards/Commissions: Parks and Recreation Commission

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Support. This policy issue merits discussion at the 2023 Study Issues Workshop.

Currently, the only public areas in the City where dogs are allowed off-leash are the fenced in dog parks at Las Palmas Park, Seven Seas Park, Fair Oaks Park and Muwékma Park. The Study will give staff and Council the necessary information to determine if they want to move forward with allowing dogs to be off leash during certain hours at select City parks.

Previously in 2013, the feasibility of off-leash alternatives was looked at as part of *Study Issue DPW 13-14 Feasibility of Establishing Additional Dog Parks and Alternatives in Sunnyvale's Park System*. On July 23, 2013, Council considered this item in RTC No. 13-178, *Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Feasibility of Establishing Additional Dog Parks and Off-Leash Alternatives in Sunnyvale's Park System and Budget Modification No. 2*. City Council voted in favor of Alternative 1 - Approve Budget Modification No. 2 to appropriate \$100,000 from the Park Dedication Fund in FY 2013/14 for the purpose of making improvements to Las Palmas Dog Park, including the addition of natural grass and a separate area for small dogs. Council also approved Alternative 2 - Approve inclusion of new dog parks at Lakewood and Fair Oaks Parks as part of the scope of work for the approved major renovation capital projects at each site in the Park Dedication Fund 20-year plan. However, Council did not approve Alternative 3 which would have directed staff to amend the Sunnyvale Municipal Code to allow dogs off-leash at designated locations and times in Sunnyvale's Park system and establish rules for such under the authority of the Director of Public Works. At that time, there were concerns from a risk management and liability perspective that unfenced, off-leash options posed a substantial risk due to the unpredictability of dog behavior. Many residents who frequently use parks also opposed having off-leash areas, based on negative experiences with off-leash dogs.

Since there are new pilot and trial studies in nearby cities, the data from those studies would help

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provide additional information for this analysis that may be different from the previous analysis in 2013.

Prepared by: Jim Stark, Superintendent of Parks

Reviewed by: Damon Sparacino, Superintendent of Recreation Services

Reviewed by: Michelle Perera, Director, Library and Recreation Services

Reviewed by: Chip Taylor, Director, Public Works Department

Reviewed by: Teri Silva, Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Kent Steffens, City Manager



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2023 COUNCIL STUDY ISSUE

NUMBER

DPW 22-04

TITLE Street Tree Repopulation with an Equity Lens

BACKGROUND

Lead Department: Department of Public Works

Support Departments: Office of the City Manager
Office of the City Attorney
Environmental Services Department

Sponsor(s): Sustainability Commission

History: 1 year ago: Ranked, Below the Line
2 years ago: N/A

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

What precipitated this Study?

In February 2021, the Department of Public Works, Parks Division presented an update to the Sustainability Commission on the City's Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP). In this presentation, staff noted that there are more than 5,000 empty street tree spaces. The goal of the UFMP is to increase the urban tree canopy to 20.5%. Currently, canopy coverage is at 18.5% (2007 data); achieving the goal of 20.5% would require adding 29,000 new trees. Thus, filling empty tree spaces will be important to achieving this goal. The cost of planning, planting, watering and lifetime trimming of street trees is significant, but results in environmental benefits (e.g., reduced heat island effect, improved air quality, and carbon sequestration).

The City's Climate Action Playbook's Play 4.3 goal is to enhance natural carbon sequestration capacity by implementing various strategies, including Move 4.F (Implement the City's UFMP and continue to protect and greatly expand tree canopy). Further, prioritizing trees in underserved neighborhoods is aligned with Council's Policy Priority of Equity, Access, and Inclusion. This Study Issue aims to ensure the available resources are used to add trees in underserved, low-income neighborhoods, or neighborhoods with the least amount of tree cover.

What are the key elements of the Study?

The intent of this Study is to develop a strategy/plan for planting trees in the 5,000 vacant tree locations within five years. This strategy/plan would include the following elements:

1. Identify how to fill all 5,000 vacant street tree locations within five years including how to secure the resources required. This would include a cost analysis for:
 - a. Planting trees and establishing them; and
 - b. Ongoing maintenance and operation costs following tree planting. In the past, the responsibility, cost, and logistics of watering newly planted trees has been a barrier for

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their establishment.

2. Develop a strategy for prioritizing residential areas with lower tree canopy, low-income neighborhoods, multifamily dwellings, and other historically underserved communities.

Estimated years to complete study: 1 year

FISCAL IMPACT

Cost to Conduct Study

(Delete any empty rows in table)

Level of staff effort required (opportunity cost):	Moderate
Funding Required for Non-Budgeted Costs:	\$50,000
Funding Source:	Will seek budget supplement

This Study can be conducted by staff and consultant services.

Cost to Implement Study Results

Staff estimates that the cost to implement this Study is significant. The Study will develop estimates to implement this type of program including the cost of new trees, planting the trees, installing root barriers, and watering the trees during the first three years of establishment. Additional staff and at least one watering truck may be necessary to maintain the new trees.

EXPECTED CITY COUNCIL, BOARD OR COMMISSION PARTICIPATION

Council-Approved Work Plan: No

Council Study Session: No

Reviewed by Boards/Commissions: Sustainability, Parks and Recreation

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Support. This policy issue merits discussion at the 2023 Study Issues Workshop.

The Study would provide valuable information for evaluating the implementation of two key City Plans: the UFMP and the Climate Action Playbook. An analysis of vacant tree locations in underserved neighborhoods could help to accelerate and guide the City's implementation of the UFMP, and ensure that these neighborhoods would be prioritized when resources become available for adding new trees in the future. Based on staff's experience, residents in underserved neighborhoods tend to decline a street tree as they typically do not have resources (e.g., time, income) to care for it. In addition to prioritizing locations in underserved neighborhoods, this Study would examine a longer-term resource plan for maintaining trees where residents may otherwise face hardships or challenges to maintain the trees themselves. Developing such a resource plan would assist staff in budgeting reliably for future UFMP implementation, while addressing equity disparities and achieving climate goals.

Prepared by: Madeline Willett, Environmental Programs Manager

Reviewed by: Jim Stark, Superintendent of Parks and Golf

Reviewed by: Ramana Chinnakotla, Director of Environmental Services

Reviewed by: Chip Taylor, Director of Public Works

Reviewed by: Teri Silva, Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Kent Steffens, City Manager



City of Sunnyvale

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2023 COUNCIL STUDY ISSUE

NUMBER

DPW 22-08

TITLE Evaluate the Council Policy for Naming City Parks with the Intention of Incorporating a More Diverse Cultural History in Park Names Including South Asian Culture and Develop a Policy for Renaming Existing Parks

BACKGROUND

Lead Department: Department of Public Works

Support Departments: Office of the City Manager

Office of the City Attorney

Sponsor(s): Councilmembers: Din, Cisneros

History: 1 year ago: Ranked, Below the Line

2 years ago: N/A

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

What precipitated this Study?

At the January 25, 2022 City Council meeting, Councilmember Din proposed a Study Issue to evaluate current City policy for naming City parks with the intention of incorporating a more diverse cultural history in park names including South Asian culture and evaluating the policy for renaming existing parks. This study would review Council Policy 7.3.23, Naming / Renaming Parks & Recreation Facilities.

At the February 17 Workshop, Council supported modifying the scope of this study issue to remove the specific reference to South-Asian culture and identification of historic figures or events that could be candidates for naming or renaming a park.

What are the key elements of the Study?

The following items will be incorporated into the scope of the Study:

- Review and identify potential changes to the current City process for naming City parks to incorporate more diverse cultural history.
- Review the current policy and specifically identify a process to potentially change the name of a current City park.

Estimated years to complete Study: 1 year

FISCAL IMPACT

Cost to Conduct Study

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Level of staff effort required (opportunity cost):	Moderate
Funding Required for Non-Budgeted Costs:	\$0
Funding Source:	N/A

Cost to Implement Study Results

Unknown. The Study would include assessment of potential costs, including capital and operating, as well as revenue/savings.

EXPECTED CITY COUNCIL, BOARD OR COMMISSION PARTICIPATION

Council-Approved Work Plan: No

Council Study Session: Yes

Reviewed by Boards/Commissions: Parks and Recreation Commission

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Support. This policy issue merits discussion at the 2023 Study Issues Workshop.

Revisiting the current Parks naming process using an equity lens to honor the contributions of our diverse community is in line with the City's Equity, Access and Inclusion efforts.

Prepared by: Jim Stark, Parks Superintendent

Reviewed by: Chip Taylor, Director, Department of Public Works

Reviewed by: Teri Silva, Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Kent Steffens, City Manager



City of Sunnyvale

Agenda Item

23-0013

Agenda Date: 2/16/2023

2023 COUNCIL STUDY ISSUE

NUMBER

DPW 23-04

TITLE Explore the Feasibility of Converting the PG&E Lot Between Lois Avenue and Ramona Avenue into a Public Fenced Dog Park

BACKGROUND

Lead Department: Department of Public Works
Support Departments: Office of the City Manager
Office of the City Attorney
Sponsor(s): Park and Recreation Commission
History: 1 year ago: N/A
2 years ago: N/A

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

What precipitated this Study?

At the March 4, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, a Sunnyvale resident proposed converting the PG&E lot near Greenwood Manor Park into a public dog park. The PG&E lot is situated between Lois Avenue and Ramona Avenue. PG&E owns the lot, but the City is currently providing minimal maintenance of the area pursuant to an agreement with PG&E.

What are the key elements of the Study?

The Study would explore the feasibility of opening the PG&E lot situated between Lois Avenue and Ramona Avenue for a public use dog park to help accommodate increasing demand for dog parks in the City. The Study would consider what would be needed to open the PG&E lot for public access. It would make recommendations for potential improvements to the site (e.g., double gated entry, surfacing options, etc.) and provide associated costs, both capital and operational. The Study would include an evaluation of any current agreements or precedents that exist and consider what new agreements may need to be created and determine the process and timeline for doing so. Due to the close proximity of residential housing and availability of only on-street parking, a robust public outreach component would be required. In addition, the Study would determine if any existing PG&E equipment or electrical lines would pose a health risk to dog park patrons. The closest dog park to this location is at Las Palmas Park, which is 0.9 miles away.

Estimated years to complete study: 1 year

FISCAL IMPACT

Cost to Conduct Study

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Level of staff effort required (opportunity cost):	Moderate
Funding Required for Non-Budgeted Costs:	\$25,000
Funding Source:	Will seek budget supplement

The cost is for consultant services that are necessary to complete the work effort. The proposed study would require significant public outreach due to the proximity of the proposed dog park to existing residential housing. The Study would also require the consultant to engage with PG&E representatives to determine the effort involved to convert the land to a public dog park.

Cost to Implement Study Results.

Unknown. Study would include assessment of potential costs, including capital and operating, as well as revenue/savings.

EXPECTED CITY COUNCIL, BOARD OR COMMISSION PARTICIPATION

Council-Approved Work Plan: No

Council Study Session: Yes

Reviewed by Boards/Commissions: Park and Recreation Commission

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Support. This policy issue merits discussion at the 2023 Study Issues Workshop.

Staff supports this Study Issue as there is increasing demand for additional off-leash dog parks in the City. There are a limited number of areas residents can recreate with their dogs off-leash. There are four fenced dog parks in the City located at Las Palmas Park, Fair Oaks Park, Seven Seas Park, and Muwékma Park, where dogs are allowed off-leash. In all other City-owned open space areas, dogs are required to be on a leash at all times.

Prepared by: Jim Stark, Superintendent of Parks

Reviewed by: Chip Taylor, Director, Department of Public Works

Reviewed by: Teri Silva, Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Kent Steffens, City Manager



City of Sunnyvale

Agenda Item

23-0110

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2023 COUNCIL STUDY ISSUE

NUMBER

ESD 17-01

TITLE Eliminate the Use of Chemical Pesticide on City Owned or Leased Property

BACKGROUND

Lead Department: Environmental Services Department

Support Departments: Office of the City Manager
Office of the City Attorney
Public Works Department
Library and Recreation Services

Sponsor(s): Sustainability Commission

History: 1 year ago: Deferred by Council
2 years ago: Ranked, Budget Supplement Not Approved

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

What precipitated this study?

The Sustainability Commission raised concerns that using chemicals to control weeds and pests may contaminate water and soil leading to negative long-term impacts to human health and non-targeted species (e.g., bees, aquatic life, birds, pets, and beneficial insects).

What are the key elements of the Study?

The purpose of this Study is to evaluate the effectiveness of the City's current Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy (Administrative Policy Manual, Chapter 6, Article 12), levels of pesticide use on City property, assess community support for eliminating pesticide use on City property and identify the potential impact on City operations. Additionally, the Study will also consider opportunities for educating residents about chemical pesticide alternatives.

Key Study elements include:

- Identify current costs to the City for purchasing and applying pesticides (i.e., insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, and rodenticides) that are covered in the IPM Policy. Separately identify costs of "Pesticides of Concern" and other chemical pesticides (e.g., glyphosate) used that are not on the 'concern' list. Identify expected net costs of further reducing and eliminating all pesticide use on City property (e.g., increased cost of mechanical weed removal, physical barriers, etc. minus savings from not purchasing pesticides, using mulch etc.).
- Identify benefits to community and environment. These will not be monetized since it is beyond the scope of this Study to assess the value of environmental benefits.

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- Identify cost of a pilot study in selected parks or City properties to measure costs/savings in a real application.
- Study cost of implementing a public outreach program to encourage pesticide elimination at homes, schools and businesses and provide information on alternative control means.
- Through a survey of residents and businesses, identify level of awareness and concern by the public on this topic and the desire for the City to devote attention to further pesticide reduction and eventual elimination.
- Benchmark and monitor progress of other cities in the region who have undertaken similar actions.
- Review the City's IPM Policy (effective June 1, 2010) and consider cost/benefit to:
 1. Provide public notification prior to the application of pesticides in public areas;
 2. Add reporting measures to allow the public to be informed on the quantities of each chemical pesticide used by the City (or associated contractors) on an annual basis;
 3. Eliminate use of specific synthetic pesticides that have significant known human toxicity and ecotoxicity impacts; and
 4. Eliminate use of synthetic pesticides within a certain distance of playgrounds and creeks/channels where they may pose a threat to human health and water quality.

Estimated years to complete study: 2 years

FISCAL IMPACT

Cost to Conduct Study

Level of staff effort required (opportunity cost):	Major
Funding Required for Non-Budgeted Costs:	\$100,000
Funding Source:	Will seek budget supplement

The Study would be completed with a mix of staff time and additional consultant services as follows:

- Department of Public Works (DPW) is responsible for landscape management, including the application of pesticides and herbicides on City property.
- Environmental Services Department (ESD), with support from DPW, will take the lead in evaluating the public outreach aspects of the study and complete a survey of residents and businesses.
- The consultant, with management from ESD and support from DPW staff, will survey and monitor what other cities in the area have undertaken for similar projects, complete a cost analysis for current practices and possible changes, and identify options for a pilot project and costs associated with it.

Staff had previously indicated an intention to apply for grant funding. After evaluating grant funding opportunities, staff has determined that the California Department of Pesticide Regulations' (DPR) Alliance Grant Program is not a good match for funding this Study Issue. The Alliance Grant Program would be better suited to fund implementation of actions that the City may take as a result of this Study.

The cost does not anticipate a time-in-motion study to estimate potential cost impacts of chemical alternatives, such as mechanical weed removal. The determination of the net cost impact of chemical alternatives, as identified in the study scope, would be estimated based on research of cost impacts

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experienced by the benchmarked communities. Additional funding beyond the \$100,000 may be needed to conduct time-in-motion studies and such costs will be included in the development of the potential pilot project to measure costs/savings in a real application as identified in this Study Issue.

Cost to Implement Study Results

Unknown. The Study would include assessment of potential costs, including capital and operating, as well as revenue/savings.

EXPECTED CITY COUNCIL, BOARD OR COMMISSION PARTICIPATION

Council-Approved Work Plan: No

Council Study Session: No

Reviewed by Boards/Commissions: Sustainability Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Support. This policy issue merits discussion at the 2023 Study Issues Workshop.

Staff recommends supporting this Study Issue. Last year, staff recommended deferral, pending the outcomes of a planned application for the California Department of Pesticide Regulations' (DPR) Alliance Grant Program to implement the key elements of this Study. However, after further evaluation of the feasibility of applying for that grant and the grant requirements, staff have concluded that the Alliance Grant Program is better suited to fund implementation of actions that may result from this Study rather than the Study itself.

The City's current IPM policy has been in place since 2010. City DPW staff receives annual training on the IPM policy, and pest control contractors are required to also comply with the policy when working on City property. In accordance with the IPM policy, pesticides are used only after other controls have been considered and applied and data on pesticide usage are reported to ESD on a monthly basis. Additionally, the City provides education on IPM at environmental outreach events and participates in regional educational campaigns. ESD also hosts sustainable landscaping classes that promote alternatives to pesticides in partnership with the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA) in the spring and fall.

Other cities in the region are implementing variations of limited pesticide use programs. Some examples are:

1. The City of Menlo Park eliminated the use of pesticides in a majority of city parks in 2018, excluding athletic fields. (Menlo Park action, February 2018, www.menlopark.org/DocumentCenter/View/16607/12---Herbicide-Free-Parks?bidId=). Some parks were included as potential sites for future pesticide elimination. Additional costs for FY 20/21 are estimated at approximately \$400,000 (Contract award to pest control contractor, July 2020, www.menlopark.org/Archive/ViewFile/Item/11429).
2. The City of Los Altos discourages the use of synthetic pesticides in city-owned parks and open spaces, relying instead on certified organic pesticide products and IPM techniques (Revised IPM Policy, August 2020, www.losaltosca).
3. The City of Palo Alto limited the use of specific pesticides (e.g. glyphosate), designated pesticide-free locations, and eliminated use of pesticides within 100 feet of playgrounds and creeks (Revised IPM Policy, July 2020, www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?t=71323.71&BlobID=79014).

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This Study would provide valuable information to inform potential revisions to the City's IPM policy and also allow the City to pilot pesticide-free facilities. This is aligned with the City's stormwater management practices and goal of achieving a healthier, safer community.

In December 2020, Chair Wickham of the Sustainability Commission presented on best practices of pesticide management with a focus on local municipalities. The presentation noted that in all cases the transition from chemical pesticide use resulted in an increased operating cost. The presentation also noted that there are significant ecological and community health benefits associated with eliminating chemical pesticide use. A copy of the presentation is available here:

<https://sunnyvaleca.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=AO&ID=98034&GUID=dca43681-dda3-492b-972b-8acbed24bffc&N=QmVzdCBQcmFjdGljZXMGZm9yIFBlc3RpY2lkZSBNYW5hZ2VtZW50>

Prepared by: Madeline Willett, Environmental Programs Manager

Reviewed by: Ramana Chinnakotla, Director, Environmental Services

Reviewed by: Chip Taylor, Director, Public Works

Reviewed by: Teri Silva, Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Kent Steffens, City Manager



City of Sunnyvale

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Agenda Date: 2/16/2023

2023 COUNCIL STUDY ISSUE

NUMBER

ESD 22-02

TITLE Promotion and Assessment of Sustainable Landscaping Strategies

BACKGROUND

Lead Department: Environmental Services Department

Support Departments: Office of the City Manager

Public Works Department

Office of the City Attorney

Sponsor(s): Sustainability Commission

History: 1 year ago: Ranked, Below the Line

2 years ago: N/A

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

What precipitated this Study?

Current landscaping practices rely on technologies (e.g., motorized equipment such as leaf blowers) that may have adverse health, air and water quality impacts. The Sustainability Commission sponsored this Study Issue to encourage the use of more holistic landscaping practices, in order to eliminate the need for landscape equipment altogether.

This Study is relevant to the following City Policies:

- Climate Action Playbook Play 4.2: Ensure resilience of water supply; and
- General Plan, Chapter 7 Environmental Management, Goals EM-2: Water Conservation; EM-8.5 Prevent Accelerated Soil Erosion; and EM-11 Improved Air Quality

What are the key elements of the Study?

This Study would examine alternatives to traditional landscaping practices that would require less reliance on motorized landscape maintenance equipment. Factors that should be considered are landscaping equipment types, frequency of landscaping maintenance or service, and landscaping coverage types.

The City may collaborate at the regional level with other agencies to best deliver the following elements of the Study:

1. A list of best practices or comparisons of landscape maintenance strategies to be identified/developed. For example, what are the impacts of using mulching as a landscape practice versus using leaf blower equipment. This should include determinations for how

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frequency of service changes the impacts, which strategies require more or less staff time and resources, etc. One time and ongoing cost implications will be provided along with the comparison.

2. Provide a list of existing programs available to City residents which promote the adoption of the best practices identified in this Study.
3. Identify, evaluate next steps, and provide costs for the City to provide the following resources to promote the adoption of the best practices identified in this Study:
 - a. Incentives, such as sustainable landscaping certifications, gas-powered equipment trade-ins, price comparisons, rebates, etc.
 - b. An educational program/campaign to educate target audiences of the benefits of switching to the more sustainable strategies. This should include costs or savings, ecological impacts, pollution prevention benefits, etc. Target audience would include single family residential, multifamily dwellings, property owners, and landscape service providers.
4. Evaluate the existing Park Design Guidelines and Standard Details for revision to meet best practices identified in this Study.

Estimated years to complete study: 1 year

FISCAL IMPACT

Cost to Conduct Study

Level of staff effort required (opportunity cost):	Moderate
Funding Required for Non-Budgeted Costs:	\$100,000
Funding Source:	Will seek budget supplement

A budget supplement is requested to fund consultant support needed to conduct research on the key elements of this Study. Some resources on sustainable landscaping best practices specific to the Bay Area already exist and may be leveraged. For example, Alameda County's "Bay-friendly Landscape Guidelines," developed by the public agency StopWaste.org, recommends using landscaping practices that promote soil restoration, water conservation, energy conservation (including reduced reliance on motorized equipment), water and air quality, and less waste. Other such resources may exist.

Environmental Services Department (ESD), in collaboration with Department of Public Works (DPW) - Parks Division, will oversee the consultant's work to ensure research is conducted in a manner that would benefit and inform current operations related to landscaping. For example, DPW would guide the consultant in selecting best practices for the comparative analysis in key element No. 1, with a view to include practices that could be implemented feasibly in Sunnyvale.

Cost to Implement Study Results

Unknown. Study would include assessment of potential costs, including capital and operating, as well as revenue/savings.

Costs to implement would depend on the types of practices recommended by this Study. Costs may be significant if a majority of current landscape maintenance practices are recommended to be

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changed.

EXPECTED CITY COUNCIL, BOARD OR COMMISSION PARTICIPATION

Council-Approved Work Plan: No

Council Study Session: No

Reviewed by Boards/Commissions: Sustainability Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Support. This policy issue merits discussion at the 2023 Study Issues Workshop.

The DPW, Parks Division already implements several practices that are sustainable, including integrated pest management (IPM), water conservation, and use of native species. This Study would inform how existing practices can be expanded to incorporate air quality, noise, energy conservation, and soil restoration considerations. Furthermore, identifying how to reduce reliance on motorized landscape equipment may also assist the City in transitioning its operations to comply with AB 1346 regulations, which require small off-road engines (e.g., leaf blowers) to be zero-emission by 2024.

Prepared by: Madeline Willett, Environmental Programs Manager

Reviewed by: James Stark, Superintendent of Parks and Golf

Reviewed by: Ramana Chinnakotla, Director, Environmental Services Department

Reviewed by: Chip Taylor, Director, Department of Public Works

Reviewed by: Teri Silva, Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Kent Steffens, City Manager



City of Sunnyvale

Agenda Item

23-0012

Agenda Date: 2/16/2023

2023 COUNCIL STUDY ISSUE

NUMBER

LRS 20-03

TITLE Assessment of Needs for Additional Outdoor Sports Programs and Facilities

BACKGROUND

Lead Department: Library and Recreation Services Department

Support Departments: Office of the City Manager

Office of the City Attorney

Department of Public Works

Sponsor(s): Parks and Recreation Commission

History: 1 year ago: Ranked, Budget Supplement Not Approved

2 years ago: Ranked, Budget Supplement Not Approved

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

What precipitated this Study?

Shifts in Sunnyvale's resident demographics and diversity relative to youth, older adults and national origin have led to an increased demand for certain outdoor sports, especially pickleball, tennis and cricket. These activities provide residents the opportunity to take advantage of our favorable year-round weather while providing exercise through social and competitive play. Northern California continues to be a hotbed of activity for tennis. Pickleball is growing rapidly in many neighboring South Bay cities, and cricket is gaining in popularity.

Completion of this Study will assure that Sunnyvale is meeting current and future resident recreation needs while properly planning for future growth in these recreational areas. A competitive analysis, including other South Bay cities, will ensure that Sunnyvale is on the right track in serving the community.

What are the key elements of the Study?

The purpose of this Study is to consider current recreation trends and community needs relative to certain outdoor sports, especially pickleball, tennis and cricket. The Study would look at programs and facilities in neighboring cities and engage the Sunnyvale community through surveys and needs assessments, including community outreach meetings, relative to the activities. The Study shall also include current facility use and demand, long-range park capital projects and consider future opportunities and partnerships with the potential to impact land use and service delivery for these emerging recreation needs.

Estimated years to complete Study: 1 year

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FISCAL IMPACT

Cost to Conduct Study

Level of staff effort required (opportunity cost):	Moderate
Funding Required for Non-Budgeted Costs:	\$65,000
Funding Source:	Will seek budget supplement

The cost associated with the Study is to hire a consultant to evaluate current and future opportunities and facilities available for tennis, pickleball and cricket relative to community interests/needs and compare to neighboring cities. The level of effort is considered moderate as staff and management will be facilitating public outreach and meeting with the consultant to advise on current practices, current infrastructure and capital plans, as well as various opportunities and challenges at current park resources within the City.

Cost to Implement Study Results

Unknown. Study would include assessment of potential costs, including capital and operating, as well as revenue opportunities.

EXPECTED CITY COUNCIL, BOARD OR COMMISSION PARTICIPATION

Council-Approved Work Plan: No

Council Study Session: Yes

Reviewed by Boards/Commissions: Parks and Recreation Commission

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Support. This policy issue merits discussion at the 2023 Study Issues Workshop.

There are currently no public facilities dedicated to pickleball or cricket within the City of Sunnyvale. While Ortega Park has a public cricket pitch, the fields are predominantly used by youth softball, baseball and soccer, leaving very little availability for cricket play. The recently renovated Fair Oaks Park (synthetic turf field) was striped with multi-functional field lines, including cricket; however, the overall design and shape of the field does not support regulation cricket play or provide a dedicated/permanent pitch. Lakewood Park is scheduled for renovation within the next few years and may provide an opportunity for a dedicated/permanent cricket pitch and/or pickleball courts based on this study and community outreach during the park designing process.

Prepared by: Damon Sparacino, Superintendent of Recreation Services

Reviewed by: Michelle Perera, Director, Library and Recreation Services

Reviewed by: Chip Taylor, Director, Public Works

Reviewed by: Teri Silva, Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Kent Steffens, City Manager



City of Sunnyvale

Agenda Item

23-0189

Agenda Date: 1/11/2023

Parks and Recreation Commission Proposed Study Issues, Calendar Year: 2024
Proposed Study Issues*

Date	Working Title	Summary of Scope	Staff Comments

*The study issues have been proposed for future sponsorship

Toward the end of the calendar year, no later than October, boards and commissions will review the list of proposed study issues and officially vote on sponsorship for each individually listed study issue. Official sponsorship means that the study issue is approved for ranking with a majority vote of the board or commission. Staff will then prepare the sponsored study issue papers, including fiscal impact **but not** the staff recommendation.