



# County of Santa Cruz

## DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

979 17<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062

(831) 454-7901 FAX: (831) 454-7940 TDD: (831) 454-7978

JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA

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Monday, June 1, 2015 7:00 pm Regular Meeting	Simpkins Family Swim Center 979 17th Avenue Santa Cruz, CA 95062
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- I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL
- II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS OR LATE ADDITIONS
- III. CONSENT AGENDA (Action)
  - A. Approve minutes from April 20, 2015 ..... Pages 1-3
  - B. Consider Reports:
    1. Maintenance Section – Status Report..... Page 4
    2. Facilities Section – Status Report ..... Page 5
    3. Recreation Section – Status Report ..... Pages 6-8
  - C. Approve appointment of Ray Cancino to the Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks Board of Directors (Pages 9-10 )
- IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS  
Opportunity for persons to address the Commission on matters which are within the scope of responsibility of the Commission but not on today's agenda. Presentations must not exceed three (3) minutes in length, and individuals may speak only once during Oral Communications.
- V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT
- VI. REGULAR AGENDA – Action Items
  1. Consider a workshop to discuss the duties of the Parks and Recreation commission and to define its working goals
- VII. REGULAR AGENDA – Information Items
  1. Presentation from Fred Keely regarding the Parks, Recreation, Agricultural Conservation, and Open Space Project Status Report (Pages 11-13)
- VIII. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING (Page 14)
- IX. ADJOURNEMENT



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JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

### PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION Minutes of April 20, 2015, 7:00 p.m. meeting 979 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue Santa Cruz, California

#### I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

Present: Mariah Roberts, Kate Minott, Jim Lang, Steven Bennett

Absent: Dave Mercer

Staff: Jeff Gaffney, Jennifer Mead

#### II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS - NONE

#### III. CONSENT AGENDA

A. The minutes from February 23, 2015 were approved.

Motion/Second: Minott/Lang

AYES: 4

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1

B. The reports were accepted and filed.

Motion/Second: Minott/Bennett

AYES: 4

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1

#### IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Tricia Potts spoke about the need for an all-inclusive playground in Santa Cruz County. Palo Alto just opened their all-inclusive playground and it is very popular. She is meeting with the CAO and Shane's Inspiration to find out what needs to happen to implement this project. Chanticleer Park is the perfect location for the playground. Potts is working with POSCS to take this project to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Commissioner Roberts noted that Chanticleer is a central location of Santa Cruz County.

#### V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The junior and little guard registration this year was handled very efficiently. Commissioner Minott asked if everyone who wanted to participate got registered. Director Gaffney responded that everyone who stood in line got registered. The bike pump and jump track location is being discussed. POSCS is working with members of the community to see what the best option is.

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of April 20, 2015, 7:00 p.m. meeting**  
**Page -2-**

Director Gaffney attended the Watsonville Trails Committee meeting in April. The Committee works on trails in Santa Cruz and Monterey. Questions that Director Gaffney has for the WTC are "Who is going to construct, and who is going to operate?" POSCS is getting support from FSCCoP and Lions Club in building the Polo Grounds restroom and concession stands. Director Gaffney would like to start construction this fall, but the project may have to wait until next Spring.

The Heart of Soquel ribbon ceremony will be in late May, early June. The Farm Park will be completed in June; however, a 100 ft. tall pine tree fell at the Farm. There were no injuries but the temporary irrigation system is damaged. Recruitment for the Park Planner and Development Manager positions will start soon. POSCS is eager to have these positions filled. Commissioner Lang asked if Director Gaffney likes his position as Director. Director Gaffney responded that he likes the position, and stated that it is challenging, just as he expected. Commissioner Lang said he did a ride along with Gretchen Iliff that was very eye opening. Director Gaffney agreed that there is a lot of maintenance to be done.

Commissioner Roberts asked what would be helpful in creating the commission agenda for future meetings. Director Gaffney thinks the Commissioners should communicate what they would like to bring forward to the Chair, and the Chair will bring that to the Director for the agenda. Commissioner Roberts suggested having commission meetings at different locations, i.e. a South County park in order to engage the public and also be more hands on with Park issues. Director Gaffney agreed that keeping the public involved and meeting out at location will be helpful in addressing items for parks.

Commissioner Minott suggested outreach to the Sheriff's office be made to figure out how to best handle Park issues. Director Gaffney responded that having a Chief Ranger for Parks would be ideal along with a robust volunteer program. Jeff is meeting regularly with Sherriff Hart to talk about what resources are available for POSCS and if there are grants for special patrol units.

The Volunteer Coordinator position will go to budget hearings and Director Gaffney anticipates this position will have exponential benefits. Fred Keely was unable to attend because he is busy preparing for the Board of Supervisors meeting on April 21st. The Coastal Commission is having issues with people contacting First Alarm to regulate beach areas. This action is prohibited, the property owners have no tasks of approval and POSCS is not supportive.

**VI. REGULAR AGENDA**

**A. Action Items**

1. The Commission nominated Mariah Roberts as Chair (Lang/Bennett), and Dave Mercer as Vice Chair (Minott/Lang).

AYES: 4  
NOES: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 1

**B. Informational Items**

1. Fred was absent and did not give his presentation on the Parks, Recreation, Agricultural Conservation, and Open Space Project Status Report.

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of April 20, 2015, 7:00 p.m. meeting**  
**Page -3-**

**VII. Meeting Adjourned at 7:44 p.m.**

Motion/Second: Lang/Bennett

AYES: 4

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1



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JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

**DATE:** MAY 20, 2015

**TO:** PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
ARTS COMMISSION

**FROM:** GRETCHEN ILIFF, MAINTENANCE DIVISION

**RE:** PARKS BUILDING AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE STATUS REPORTS ON  
CURRENT PROJECTS

### **NORTH COUNTY PARKS** (Highlands, Ben Lomond, Felton Covered Bridge, Probation, Michael Gray Field, Quail Hollow Ranch and the North Coast)

High weed mowing and trail work occurred this month at Quail Hollow Ranch.

The fence at the day Care Center at Highlands Park was repaired.

### **MID-COUNTY PARKS** (AJC, Government Center, Emeline Complex, Twin Lakes, Brommer, Felt, Floral, Coffee Lane, Soquel Lyons, Jose Avenue, Winkle Farm, Willowbrook Lane, Moran Lake, Maplethorpe, Santa Cruz Gardens, Mid-County beach access areas)

Staff did a clean-up of the open space area at Anna Jean Cummings Park.

Brommer Park received some much needed repairs. The turf received some fertilizer, new signs were installed and material was added to the baseball infield.

At Willowbrook Park a new memorial tree was installed

### **SOUTH COUNTY PARKS** (Polo Grounds, Valencia Hall, Hidden Beach, Seascape, Aptos Village, South County Beach access areas, Scott Park, Scott Estate, Aldridge Lane, Mesa Village, Pinto Lake, Freedom Government Annex)

The base rock parking area at Scott Park received some grading and new material.

The California Conservation Corps did some trail work on the Carmichael Trail this month.

### **SIMPKINS FAMILY SWIM CENTER**

Staff received training on water conservation methods and learned about the current water restrictions for each water district.

Staff installed the annual climbing wall at the Simpkins Swim Center.

Two long-term staff members retired this month.



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JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

DATE: May 20, 2015  
TO: Parks & Recreation Commission, Arts Commission  
FROM: Gretchen Iliff, Facilities Management Division  
RE: Status Report on Current Projects

### Summary for reservations in the Parks for the month of May and June 2015, (excluding SFSC):

#### Attendance at Reserved Facilities:

The months of May and June have been very busy in the office and at the park sites. The public continues to enjoy the resources and recreational opportunities available within the County Parks system. There were approximately 1,000 bookings of the various Park sites, including reservations of picnic areas, meeting rooms, wedding locations, special events and athletic fields. Staff estimates that over 93,000 park visitors attended events in reserved facilities during the months of May and June.

#### Center and Meeting Room Rentals in May and June 2015:

Park Centers host a variety of events, including wedding receptions, family events and various non-profit events. May and June have hosted 47 weddings, receptions, and events held at various Park Centers with rental revenues totaling \$47,000.00, as compared to 40 events during these same months in 2014 with over \$39,000.00 in revenue last year. These two months also included 48 meeting room rentals totaling \$1,965.00.

#### Picnic Areas in May and June 2015:

Picnic area rentals have been filling up the monthly schedules with 67 picnic rentals taking place during these two months and revenues totaled \$10,735.00. Fourteen of the picnics (20%) are annual picnics for non-profits and end of the school year parties.

#### Athletic Fields in May and June 2015:

The season for athletic field use has been in full swing with baseball leagues finishing their season and soccer leagues maintaining full use in spring and summer. Over 670 individual field bookings in 18 athletic fields took place in May and June. Revenues totaled \$38,400.00.

#### Special Events in May and June 2015:

The **Santa Cruz American Music Festival** at Aptos Park (former Blues Fest) and **Felton Remembers** at Felton Covered Bridge Park took place over Memorial Day weekend. Bonnie Raitt and Big & Rich headlined the annual music festival, which drew up to 3,000 people in attendance each day. **Music on the River**, hosted by the Ben Lomond Business Association in support of KIA Honor Flag Organization, took place at Ben Lomond Dam Park in May. Pinto Lake Disc Golf Club hosted the annual **Daisy Chains Tournament**, a two-day all-women's tournament at Pinto Lake County Park in May. Also, UCSC Cycling Team staged the **Slug Cycling Gran Fondo** road race in May starting at Pinto Lake County Park. June races at Aptos Park include the annual **Nisene Marks Marathon**, hosted by Santa Cruz Host Lions, and the **Women's 5- Miler**, hosted by Santa Cruz Track Club. The second of the three races in County Parks as part of the Santa Cruz Race Management series hosted by Fleet Feet Sports includes **Superhero Run 5k & 10k** at Aptos Park in June. The Watsonville- Santa Cruz **JACL (Japanese American Cultural League)** will host its annual organization community picnic at Aptos Park in June, including drumming by Watsonville Taiko.



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Jeff Gaffney  
Director

DATE: May 20, 2015  
TO: Arts Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission  
FROM: Kathy DeWild, Program Coordinator  
RE: Recreation and Cultural Services Division Status Report – June 2015

### ARTS AND CULTURAL

**Public Art Program** – Kathleen Crocetti was approved by the County Board of Supervisors to be the public artist for Seacliff Village Park. Ms. Crocetti's proposes to design and install 38 stained-concrete pylons with mosaic tops, featuring imagery which relates to the Seacliff area. The pylons will be cast in place along the park pathway, varying in height from 18-26" and in diameter from 12-16". Through community meetings, she plans to engage local residents in selecting imagery for the mosaics, as well as the creation of the mosaics themselves – which will be done on-site, at the park.

**Art Exhibitions** – Mark Overgaard's photography will be on exhibition at the Simpkins Family Swim Center / Parks office from now until mid-August, 2015. The exhibition, titled "Cultural Encounters in Asia," focuses on images from his recent visits to Asia, including two trips to China in 2013 and two trips to Southeast Asia (including Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam) in 2014, plus a visit to India in 2015. The emphasis in this collection is on the people of the regions that he visited.

### ADULT AND SENIOR PROGRAMS

On April 16<sup>th</sup> we journeyed to Half Moon Bay, where participants browsed the shops and enjoyed a nice lunch. We then traveled to Harley Farms, where we were treated to a fabulous tour of the goat farm and experienced the cheese-making process firsthand.

May has been a busy month! On the May 9<sup>th</sup>, participants took a trip that began at Fisherman's Wharf, where they had lunch and browsed the shops. Later, we enjoyed a wonderful guided tour at Fort Point in the Presidio. Next, we received an overview of the Presidio Trust's role in preserving the Presidio and their plans for community-minded future park and preservation projects. On our way to view the exhibits at the Officers' Club, we were treated to a presentation of Andy Goldsworthy's *Tree Fall* art installation in the former munitions building.

We also stopped to watch archeologists uncovering clues from the past under the Main Post's Main Parade Ground and viewed some of their finds. In May we also watched the Giants take on the LA Dodgers. What fun! Later this month we will enjoy a trip through 17-Mile Drive, Carmel & Big Sur narrated by a step-on tour guide. Lastly, we will take a trip to the Legion of Honor and de Young Museums, where participants will receive guided tours of the current special exhibits at each museum.

More fun awaits in June, as trip-goers will enjoy a 5-hr. narrated cruise aboard the River Dolphin and see the oldest lighthouses and former lighthouse locations on the West Coast.

## AQUATIC PROGRAMS

**The spring pool schedule, which runs through June 12, is as follows:**

**Lap Pool hours** - Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Warm-water Pool** - The warm-water pool is available for general use on:

Mon., Wed. and Fri. 6:00-10:30 a.m., 3:00-5:00 p.m. (Rec. Swim) & 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Tues. and Thurs. 6:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Shared w/swim lessons 9:30 a.m.-12:30p.m. and again from 6:30-7:30 p.m.)

Sat. 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. (adults only)  
10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (adults & kids age 6 and under)  
12:30-4:00 p.m. (Recreation Swim ~ all ages)

Sun. 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (all ages)

**Recreation Swim** – This includes the Warm Water Pool and the first lane of the 50-meter pool

Mon.- Fri. 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Sat. 12:30-4:00 p.m.

**Spring Swim Lessons** - Spring swimming lessons began on March 2, 2015. Sessions are available on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Evening swim lesson sessions are available Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings from 4:30 -7:30 p.m. and Tuesday/Thursday evenings from 4:30-7:30 p.m.

**Adult Fitness Swimming** - Adult Fitness Swimming is very popular at the Simpkins Family Swim Center. The best-attended workouts are Tuesday and Saturday mornings; up to 40 swimmers fill the 50-meter pool at these times. Fitness swimmers may choose from several different workout times: Mondays at 6:00 a.m.; Tuesday workouts are at 6:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday 6:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.; Friday workouts are offered at 6:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday workouts are offered at 9:00 a.m.



**Water Aerobics & Exercise** - The water exercise classes this year continue to reach their highest capacity to date. Water exercise is an excellent way for people to meet their fitness goals without impact on the joints. Classes are designed to appeal to all levels of ability including, healthy, pre-natal, seniors, and rehabilitating or cross training fitness enthusiasts. A monthly calendar is available with dates, times and instructors names. Previous swimming or water-exercise experience is not required for participation in any of the water exercise classes.

**Water Polo** - Sundays from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Participants must be a member of USAWPA to participate in the program.

**Summer Programs** - Summer program registration began on April 6. Once again, the Little Guard Program (5 & 6 year olds) filled for the summer within an hour. All sessions of the Junior Lifeguard Program (7-13 year olds) are full also. There is plenty of room to sign up for summer swim lessons.

**Lifeguard Training Exercises** - The May in-service training exercise was Rules Review, Dryland Skills (first aid & CPR) and Swim Lesson Review. Staff also conducted a quarterly Head Lifeguard in-service on Friday May 22 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

**Aquatic Staff Recruitment** - During the spring staff recruitment, staff hired the following extra-help positions: 16 lifeguards, one Head Lifeguard, and two Aquatic Specialists.

**Swim Teams** - The Cabrillo Threshers and Santa Cruz County Aquatics swim teams continue to rent lanes in the 50-meter pool. The swim teams offer school-age competitive swimming programs Monday through Friday from 4:00-7:30 p.m.

**Special Olympics** - On Friday evenings through June 12, Special Olympics rents four lanes in the 50-meter pool for training and coaching.

**Private Pool Parties** - Private Pool Parties are available on Saturdays and Sundays starting March 1, continuing through the fall. A variety of rental packages are available to accommodate small gatherings as well as groups of up to 110 people. Private Pool Parties are scheduled on weekends, spring through fall, after the facility has closed to the public.

**School Parties** – Once again local schools will be renting the facility for their end-of-the-year parties, starting in May. Every weekday for three weeks students will get to enjoy the pool with their classmates.



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JEFF GAFFNEY  
DIRECTOR

### AGENDA: June 1, 2015

May 26, 2015

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
979 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF BOARD MEMBERS TO THE NON-PROFIT  
FRIENDS OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY PARKS

Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission:

As your Commission may recall, Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks (FSCCoP) is a non-profit organization which helps to further park and recreation services by linking community donors and County Parks. For example, throughout 2014-15 FSCCoP provided scholarships to local area youth for swimming lessons, summer camps, renaissance camp, and pool junior guards.

FSCCoP by-laws state that the board of directors shall consist of at least five (5) but no more than fifteen (15) directors, and that directors shall be appointed by the Parks and Recreation Commission. Commissioner Minott has submitted the attached nomination recommending appointment of Raymon Cancino to the FSCCoP board of directors. It is recommended that Commissioners approve the appointment of Raymon Cancino to the FSCCoP board of directors.

Sincerely,

Jeff Gaffney  
Parks Director

Attachment

FOSCP nom.doc



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**Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks**  
**|FSCCoP|**  
**979-17th Avenue • Santa Cruz, CA 95062**  
**Tax ID 77-0209249**

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**SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF BOARD MEMBER TO THE  
NON-PROFIT "FRIENDS OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY PARKS" (FSCCoP)**

**AGENDA: June 1, 2015**

Dear Fellow Santa Cruz County Parks and Recreation Commissioners:

As you may recall, "Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks" (FSCCoP) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides support and assistance to Santa Cruz County parks, art and recreation programs and services.

Since the founding of this non-profit in the 1980s, donations have been raised and gifts made to a range of Santa Cruz County park projects and art and recreation programs. For example, FSCCoP funds scholarships to youngsters in our community for summer swim lessons and recreation activities.

FSCCoP By-laws state the FSCCoP Board of Directors shall consist of at least five (5), but no more than fifteen (15) directors appointed by the Santa Cruz County Parks and Recreation Commission.

I am requesting this Commission considers the nomination and appointment of Raymon Cancino to the FSCCoP Board of Directors. Ray is the Chief Executive Officer of the non-profit Community Bridges. Community Bridges operates a variety of successful programs throughout Santa Cruz County, notably at the Child Development Center and the Senior Center of San Lorenzo Valley in Highlands County Park.

Best wishes,

*Kate*

Katharine P. Minott

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*The Mission of Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks [FSCCoP] is to provide support and assistance to Santa Cruz County Parks, arts, cultural enrichment events and recreational activities for our diverse community.*

*FSCCoP is a non-profit 501(c)(3).*

*To donate or volunteer please contact FSCCoP at 979-17 Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95062 or 831.454.7901*

*Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fscop> • Web: <http://fscop.weebly.com>*



# County of Santa Cruz

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 520, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4073

(831) 454-2100 FAX: (831) 454-3420 TDD: (831) 454-2123

SUSAN MAURIELLO, J.D., COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

April 9, 2015

AGENDA: April 21, 2015

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
County of Santa Cruz  
701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, California 95060

### **PARKS, RECREATION, AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION, AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

Dear Members of the Board:

This report is in fulfillment of the Board's request for an update on this agenda regarding the Open Space Project authorized by the Board in 2014. The Open Space Project was approved by the Board of Supervisors to be undertaken in 2015, with the goal being for the Board to be able to make decisions near the end of the calendar year as to whether or not to pursue the establishment of an Open Space District at a future date.

As indicated in the Open Space Project – Status Report of February 24, 2015, the effort underway now has two basic components: 1) Research concerning use of existing state law for the establishment of an Open Space District; Collection of existing Conservation and Open Space elements of County and City (four) General Plans; Collection of Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities elements; Collection of existing Capital Improvement Plans of the County and City (four); Identification of resources that can assist in a thorough development of sufficient information for a Board of Supervisors' decision at a later date; and, 2) Constructing the framework for a series of meetings in supervisorial districts, cities, and appropriate special districts.

**Existing State Law.** In general, the California Public Resources Code (Sections 5500-5595) establishes the legal framework for Open Space Districts (OSD). OSD's can come into existence through one of two methods: 1) An act of the Legislature, amending the General Law of 1939; or, 2) Proceeding through the Local Agency Formation Commission pursuant to the Knox-Nisbet Act of 1963. In either event, a vote of the electorate of the proposed OSD is required in order for the OSD to come alive. A decision regarding which path to take is not likely to come before the Board until some time near the end of the calendar year.

**Conservation and Open Space Elements of General Plans.** The OSD Project has assembled Conservation and Open Space Elements of the County's General Plan, and the Planning Department is reaching out to Santa Cruz, Capitola, Watsonville and Scotts Valley to provide their corresponding elements. In the County's Conservation and Open Space Element, it is stated: "The goals, objectives, policies and programs of this chapter recognize the need to balance conservation and preservation of natural and cultural resources with their productive use and stewardship." This policy will be respected in the development of any future OSD, and will include the sentiments of the Board as expressed in the Working Lands resolution adopted by the Board in April 2015.

**Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Elements of General Plans.** The OSD Project has assembled Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Elements of the Santa Cruz County General Plan, and the Planning Department is providing the corresponding elements from the four cities in Santa Cruz County. The County's Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities element states in part: "The Parks and Recreation and Public Facilities Element is an optional element under State Planning law which combines numerous topics all related to providing Community facilities to support existing and future populations."

**Capital Improvement Plan.** The Board of Supervisors approved the Santa Cruz County Final Capital Improvement Program 2014-15 in December of 2014. That CIP is the combined word of the departments of Planning, Public Works, and Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services. The project is overseen by the County Administrative Office. The CIP is presented by Planning Area, and, thus, will serve as a key document for community meetings.

**Additional Resources.** In order to provide the Board of Supervisors with the most comprehensive data and information with which to make subsequent decisions, the OSD Project has assembled additional resources. Local vendors will be utilized to provide information concerning community needs for parks, recreation, agricultural conservation, and open space. They will also assist in assessing in a comprehensive manner, the capacity for increasing funding for high priority projects.

**Community Meetings.** Based on discussions with members of the Board of Supervisors, the Mayors of Santa Cruz, Capitola, Scotts Valley and Watsonville, and with the County Administrative Officer and the four City Managers, there seems to be a strong interest in holding community meetings to explore the notion of adding financial resources to local governments' efforts to provide parks, recreation, and open space. Further work will be done to identify times, dates and locations for such community meetings. At this time, the framework of community meetings on this topic would include the following:

**Four Corners.** Rather than hold community meetings that are purely aspirational in nature, local elected officials seems to be inclined towards meetings that use existing policy documents and actions for the framework. More specifically, using the relevant sections of the documents noted above, in addition to the Conservation Blueprint (Land Trust of Santa Cruz County) and Healthy Lands & Healthy Economies: Natures Value in Santa Cruz County (Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County), will help frame the discussion of parks, recreation, agricultural conservation, and open space.

**Parks, Recreation, Agricultural Conservation, and Open Space Project – Status Report**

**Notice of Community Meetings.** In addition to legal meeting requirements, the community meetings would be noticed through local media outlets, social media, and limited advertising. Local elected officials will be encouraged to utilize any lists that they may have to increase turnout. Meetings would be held in each supervisorial district, the four cities, and, potentially, in each of the four existing autonomous park districts (Boulder Creek, Alba Road, La Selva Beach, and Opal Cliffs).

**Record of Meetings.** A variety of methods may be used to capture the general sentiments and specific issues expressed at the community meetings. Forms will be designed to allow individual participants to record issues and projects that are important to them. Extensive note-taking will be conducted. Together with other methods of capturing community wishes, these methods will be concentrated into a "living document" that will be available on a to-be-established link on the Santa Cruz County Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Cultural Services website.

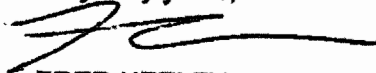
**Timing of Meetings.** Local elected officials, and especially members of the Board of Supervisors have expressed a desire to hold community meetings when the largest number of residents can attend. Thus, community meetings will be scheduled during week evenings, and when school is in session (in other words, not during summer school vacation). Assuming that the Mayors would feel similarly, it is likely that not more than a couple of meetings will take place before June, and most will be compressed into the September, October, November timeframe.

Based on conversations with Supervisors and Mayors, it seems that the Board of Supervisors may want to take two actions at this time. First, a strong sentiment has been expressed that top priority be given to focusing on funding capital improvements to existing public park lands, and agricultural conservation, and that lower priority be given to acquiring additional park, open space, and habitat lands. Second, there is a very strong sentiment among local elected officials that any new or expanded entity should not have eminent domain powers.

It is, therefore, recommended that the Board of Supervisors take the following action:

1. Accept and File this Status Report;
2. Direct the County Administrative Officer to continue overseeing the work of the Project Convener, with emphasis on conducting community meetings as set forth in this Status Report;
3. Rename the Open Space Project as follows: Parks, Recreation, Agricultural Conservation and Open Space Project; and,
4. Establish as policy that any entity that is formed as a result of the Parks, Recreation, Agricultural Conservation and Open Space Project, not have eminent domain powers.

Very truly yours,



FRED KEELEY  
Project Convener



SUSAN A. MAURIELLO  
County Administrative Officer

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE LISTING:

The Written Correspondence Listing is established to act as a report of materials received by the Commission as a whole, but may also include items requested for inclusion by individual Commissioners.

The Parks and Recreation Commission has received the following items of correspondence which require no official action by the Commission at this time:

1. Invitation from Sarah Emmert, received May 6, 2015, to a Community Launch Event regarding Youth Violence Prevention.