



MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 6, 2018

TO: Carolyn Lehr, City Manager

FROM: Brad Helfenberger, Parks and Recreation Committee

SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Committee's Annual Report On Committee Goals, Principles And Accomplishments For Year 2017; And Proposed Committee Priorities For Year 2018

COMMITTEE GOALS AND PRINCIPLES

The Parks and Recreation Committee improves and maintains green space as well as facilitates recreation programs for the community. We strive to improve access for Emeryville residents to park space and increase recreational opportunities for the local community.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY 2016/2017

- Provided recommendations on the design for Powell Greenway, in particular the plantings chosen for the project.
- Reviewed and recommended the proposed park for the Sherwin Williams Project.
- Participated on the subcommittee that selected recipients for the new Community Grants Program.
- Provided recommendations on the CIP and City Operating Budget.
- Facilitated public communication with residents from the Temescal Creek and Watergate Communities regarding park access in their neighborhoods.

TOP PRIORITIES FOR FY 2017/2018

- Prioritize CIP Projects that improve and maintain existing park spaces.
- Evaluate and update Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan.
- Identify potential funding sources for parks and open spaces.
- Conduct a survey/outreach to learn how existing parks and recreation spaces and programs are meeting the needs of the community and discover potential unmet needs.
- Advise the Community Services Department on events and programming.

First Highlighted Priority

Prioritize CIP Projects that improve and maintain existing park spaces.

- Temescal Creek Park currently has no lighting, making the space, including its bike/pedestrian path, impossible to use after sundown. There is also no restroom in the park, making it less feasible for residents who don't live in the neighborhood to use.
- Point Emery is quickly eroding into the bay. Because of environmental regulations, it is impossible to reclaim this land once it is gone. If the proposed rip rap is not installed soon, the space will be lost forever.

Second Highlighted Priority

Evaluate and Update Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan: The Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan was finalized in 2011. Since then, several projects have been completed while the needs of the Community have changed. Our goal is to evaluate how the plan has been implemented thus far as well as provide recommendations for future changes.

CONCLUSION

As the population of Emeryville increases, we will need to consider how to address the additional need of open spaces. We also need to learn more about how Emeryville workers who do not live in the City use the spaces and ensure their needs are met as well. The demographics of Emeryville are changing and we are now seeing more families living in the City. Identifying new park space will be crucial to meet these needs.

PREPARED BY: Brad Helfenberger, Recreation Manager

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EMERYVILLE:

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Carolyn Lehr, City Manager