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**MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
January 22, 2019
CITY HALL
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, California**

13 **Commissioners Present:** Anne Cribbs, Jeff Greenfield, Jeff LaMere, Ryan McCauley, Don
14 McDougall, David Moss

15 **Commissioners Absent:** Keith Reckdahl

16 **Others Present:**

17 **Staff Present:** Kristen O'Kane, Natalie Khwaja

18 **I. ROLL CALL**

19 **II. AGENDA CHANGES, REQUESTS, and DELETIONS**

20 Chair McDougall: Does anybody have comments, agenda changes, requests, deletions?

21 **III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

22 Chair McDougall: The next thing on the agenda would be any oral communications.
23 Anybody from the public who'd like to speak on topics not on the agenda? If not, then,
24 I'll invite the Department Report.

25 **IV. DEPARTMENT REPORT**

26 Kristen O'Kane: Thank you, Chair. Good evening. Kristen O'Kane, Community
27 Services. I do have some reports from Daren Anderson, who is unable to make it to the
28 meeting tonight. As soon as I find them, I'll be happy to share them with you. I will have
29 to hold off on those because I don't see them now. My only thing to report right now is
30 yesterday. I'd like to thank everyone who came to our Martin Luther King Day of
31 Celebration at Mitchell Park. It was a joint effort put on by Youth Community Service
32 and Community Services. It's really the communities of East Palo Alto and Palo Alto
33 coming together to celebrate the day of Martin Luther King and his commitment to
34 service and promoting service within the community. Both the Mayor of East Palo Alto



1 and Palo Alto spoke. It was very well attended. It's always a great event. A lot of youth
2 is there and do performances. It's a nice recognition day. The other item I wanted to
3 mention was this Thursday is our Cubberley Community Co-Design meeting, the third
4 meeting. We do have that on the agenda today, so you'll be hearing a lot more about it
5 later on in the meeting. I wanted to remind everyone that's this Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at
6 the Cubberley Pavilion. That's all I have until I find Daren's report.

7 Vice Chair Greenfield: There's an online RSVP for that.

8 Ms. O'Kane: There is an online RSVP to give us an idea of how many people are
9 coming. It's not required. We will also have a table dedicated for Spanish speakers and a
10 table dedicated for Mandarin speakers and translated materials as well.

11 Chair McDougall: Commissioner Moss.

12 Commissioner Moss: I was hoping to hear from Daren that the new Renzel pond has
13 been filled for the first time. I just wanted to make people aware that it's really big. The
14 birds are already there. Hopefully, in the Baylands Comprehensive Plan we can get some
15 observation decks so that people can actually see what we've done. I also wanted to find
16 out a little bit more about security around the pond. There are no fences yet or anything
17 like that. I just wanted to know what that was about.

18 Ms. O'Kane: The person to report on that would be Karin, who happens to be here.
19 Chair, would you like a brief response?

20 Chair McDougall: I would invite Karin to talk to us briefly.

21 Karin North: Karin North, Public Works. The pond was completed between Christmas
22 and New Year's. We turned the water on. It took quite a few days to fill the northern
23 pond, and then it did spill over to the southern pond. The northern pond will be the area
24 that's shallower, that hopefully will have the cattails. The southern pond is going to be
25 open water with the islands that were part of the existing pond. Actually, the footprint is
26 pretty similar to the existing footprint. It was just so overgrown previously that you
27 didn't notice how big it was. In terms of the security, Daren and the Public Works team
28 are working on a plan for securing the site with some rocks and a swing gate. It's also
29 part of the Baylands Comprehensive Plan in terms of the trail access, and that's still in the
30 works. Daren is working on that.

31 Ms. O'Kane: Chair, I found Daren's report.

32 Chair McDougall: It appears Daren has arrived late and now can speak.

33 Ms. O'Kane: Actually, I accidentally deleted his email. One is on the Baylands
34 Boardwalk project. It is on schedule to be completed by January 31. Staff is planning a

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1 ribbon-cutting event and will share with the Parks and Rec Commission once a date is
2 set. The second is an Urban Forester update. Walter Passmore would like to confirm if
3 you would like him to come to the February meeting. Walter is our City Arborist, and he
4 has been asked to give an update on the Urban Forest Master Plan. We can talk a little bit
5 more about that in agenda topics. Something to think about as we get through this
6 meeting and see what else we might have in February. The last thing that Commissioner
7 Greenfield will be very happy to hear is that a new golf course bike rack will be installed
8 by the end of this week.

9 Vice Chair Greenfield: Daren made a point of notifying me about that. I'm very excited,
10 yes. Now, I'll have to make good on meeting people for lunch there.

11 Commissioner Moss: I also wanted to mention that the Cubberley lights are no longer a
12 trial basis. I was surprised that they were going—they started up again January 7. I
13 thought they were going to start up a month before Daylight Savings Time, February 15.
14 I guess that was just for the trial. There are very few kids using the field in the middle of
15 January. I'd like to revisit that if possible. It seems like a waste if there are very few
16 kids.

17 Ms. O'Kane: I will speak with Adam Howard tomorrow and see if he has any data on
18 how many are using it. I can't recall the exact dates that we said the lights would be on.
19 I'll look at that as well. We might just bring the item next month for an update.

20 Vice Chair Greenfield: If I could comment as the turf liaison in working with the soccer
21 community. When we approved the seasonal lighting plan, we did set aside specific
22 dates. My recollection is we allowed the lights to be anytime during normal non-
23 Daylight Savings Time, when it gets dark earlier. I understand at the very beginning of
24 January there may not be a lot of usage of the youth teams, but that gradually increases
25 over time. The teams will be practicing out there. If we bring this issue back to the
26 Commission, I'm interested in hearing what potential issues are with the plan we have
27 agreed on and why we wouldn't allow the plan to run through the seasonal period that we
28 agreed on.

29 Chair McDougall: I think we should plan on having that back on the agenda. My guess
30 is that part of the problem is there has been so much rain recently that, even if there are
31 lights, no one wants to practice. All my grandchildren have had their soccer practice
32 canceled. We could look at that. People are adding things. I'd like to announce that all
33 the signs that have been not there on Byxbee are now in place. There are maps and
34 informational signs. I have profusely thanked Daren. More about Byxbee might be
35 useful on the agenda too. If there are no other comments? We have one speaker card,
36 Griffin Willard, if you'd like to speak for a couple of minutes.



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1 Griffin Willard: Griffin Willard, resident. Using the Rinconada Park light system where
2 you can turn it on for an allotted amount of time, is there any way that we could input this
3 in the Cubberley field so there is not an excess of waste but there is an amount of light
4 that would be provided for people when they like to use it during the season, that it
5 wouldn't already be on?

6 Chair McDougall: I'm going to suggest that staff can look into that. To clarify what you
7 said, you're looking for an on-off switch so it's only on when it's being used. That would
8 be a tradeoff with the amount you'd have to pay staff in order to do that in terms of
9 staffing. We'll have staff respond to it, but we'll take the input. Thank you very much for
10 offering the input.

11 Commissioner Cribbs: Those lights aren't (inaudible).

12 Chair McDougall: It's a timer now, I believe. Isn't it, Commissioner Greenfield?

13 Vice Chair Greenfield: No, there is a means of turning lights on and off via a remote app.
14 I'm not sure how easily this can be done. They are accessible in some manner. We'll
15 have to get more details.

16 Chair McDougall: We'll have to get more details so we understand exactly what the ...
17 We have your contact information here.

18 Commissioner Cribbs: If we could look into those lights electronically because it is an
19 app that can be on people's cell phones. You probably know that. The golf course and
20 the golf course website, how does that get updated and brought into 2019? Who's
21 responsible for that?

22 Ms. O'Kane: Are you referring to the—through the City or the Baylands Golf Links?

23 Commissioner Cribbs: When you go to the Baylands Golf website.

24 Ms. O'Kane: It's the contractor.

25 Commissioner Cribbs: I'll talk to you about it later.

26 Chair McDougall: If there are no other questions or comments, we can get on with the
27 business.

1 **V. BUSINESS**

2 **1. Approval of Draft Minutes from the December 18, 2018 Parks and**
3 **Recreation Commission meeting.**

4 Approval of the draft December 18, 2018 Minutes was moved by Commissioner Cribbs
5 and seconded by Commissioner Moss. Passed 6-0 Reckdahl absent

6 **2. Election of Chair for 2019**

7 Chair McDougall: The next item on the agenda is the election of the Chair for 2019. In
8 front of you is two ballots. The first thing we need to do is have nominations. I would
9 open the floor for nominations for the position of Chair.

10 Ms. O'Kane: Chair, could I ask you to briefly describe the time commitment each month
11 for being the Chair and the duties and responsibilities?

12 Chair McDougall: I'd be happy to. The major responsibility is actually chairing the
13 meeting. That involves meeting and spending time with Kristen and the Vice Chair. The
14 Vice Chair this year, Commissioner Greenfield, has been really helpful relative to
15 establishing what the agenda might be. There are some other not so much obligations,
16 but the position of Chair should also be more actively involved in some of the other City
17 functions and make sure that the Commission is being properly represented. I do believe
18 that the position of Chair—not that all the other positions aren't challenging relative to
19 topics—needs to make sure that they have a handle on what the various topics are so that
20 they can manage and control the conversations as they go on. I'm not going to pretend
21 that this is substantially more than many of the ad hocs. Many of the Commission
22 members are on really interesting ad hoc committees, and those ad hoc committees can
23 take an awful lot of time. It's a very rewarding position. I have enjoyed it. I've enjoyed
24 my relationship with Kristen, and I've enjoyed sitting here with all of you. I hope it's
25 been a good and rewarding year for everybody as well.

26 Ms. O'Kane: Thank you. I have just a couple of procedural things, if you don't mind,
27 Chair.

28 Chair McDougall: Please.

29 Ms. O'Kane: Commissioners can nominate one Commissioner at a time for Chair. The
30 Commissioners must be present to be nominated. Commissioner Reckdahl is not able to
31 be nominated. You may enter your own name if you choose to. If you're nominating
32 someone, you can also explain why you feel he or she would be qualified to be Chair.
33 Chair McDougall, you'll ask if they accept the nomination. Once all nominations are in,
34 you'll ask for a motion to close the nominations.



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1 Chair McDougall: I'd like to suggest that we ask for nominations, anybody who would
2 like to offer a nomination simply offers the name without an explanation. Once we have
3 all nominations, then we'll go back through the list and let people comment on their
4 nominations, if that works. If there are no other procedural questions, it's open
5 nominations for Chair for 2019. Do I have any nominations?

6 Commissioner Moss: Commissioner McDougall.

7 Chair McDougall: Do I have any other nominations? In response to the question of
8 would I accept the nomination, yes, I would accept the nomination. Commissioner Moss,
9 would you like to comment?

10 Commissioner Moss: I've been on the Commission for over three years. Commissioner
11 Reckdahl has been several years. Before him, Commissioner Lauing has been Chair for
12 three or four years, I think. Three years. It takes a while to get into it, and Commissioner
13 McDougall has done a very good job so far of engaging the staff and running the
14 meetings so they're not too long, but they have plenty of substance. That's why I
15 nominated him.

16 Chair McDougall: Thank you. Are there any other nominations? I would like to
17 nominate Commissioner Greenfield. I will ask him if he would accept the nomination.

18 Vice Chair Greenfield: I would accept the nomination. I would be comfortable in the
19 Chair position. I'd also be comfortable with you continuing for another year. I've
20 appreciated the tone and organization that you've set for the group and working with you.
21 I also appreciate that working as the Chair might be a little less fun than working on some
22 of the ad hocs. I'm really open to whatever is best for the Commission.

23 Chair McDougall: In terms of actively thinking about the City, thinking about the parks,
24 thinking about the Foothills and the Baylands, Commissioner Greenfield puts an
25 incredible amount of both emotional and intellectual energy into that. I respect that and
26 have enjoyed having him as my Vice Chair. If there are no other nominations, I would
27 call for—do we vote on closing nominations? I call for a vote on closing nominations.
28 Do I need a motion? Please.

29 Motion to close nominations for the office of Chair was moved by Commissioner
30 McCauley and seconded by Commissioner Cribbs.

31 Chair McDougall: You have two pieces of paper in front of you if you've torn them
32 properly. The smaller piece has the ballot for Chair. I don't know why we have a Euro
33 symbol. I would assume we fill in the whole box.

1 Natalie Khwaja: That box did not print properly. Circle the Euro that works best for
2 you.

3 Vice Chair Greenfield: I'm interested to hear from Chair McDougall if you're interested
4 in another term. I'm not sure I heard you actually say you accept the nomination.

5 Chair McDougall: I think I did respond to Commissioner Moss and say yes. I miss being
6 on some of the ad hocs, but it's the responsibility of the Chair to allocate the good ad hocs
7 to the people who are really qualified to do that. Other than that, I'm happy to continue
8 for another year. Yes, I accept the nomination. I would suggest we continue with the
9 voting. We should simply fill in the box, and Natalie will collect them one-by-one.

10 Ms. O'Kane: Natalie will tally the votes.

11 Ms. Khwaja: Chair McDougall has won the election.

12 Chair McDougall: Thank you all very much for your confidence. I look forward to
13 taking advantage of what I learned last year and making this into a really outstanding
14 year for the Palo Alto Parks and Recreation Commission. Thank you.

15 **3. Election of Vice Chair for 2019**

16 Chair McDougall: Now, I'd like to open nominations for Vice Chair.

17 Commissioner Cribbs: I'll nominate Commissioner Greenfield, please.

18 Chair McDougall: Commissioner Greenfield, do you accept the nomination?

19 Vice Chair Greenfield: I accept the nomination.

20 Chair McDougall: Do we have any other nominations?

21 Commissioner McCauley: I'd like to nominate Anne Cribbs, please.

22 Chair McDougall: Do you accept the nomination?

23 Commissioner Cribbs: I think we have such a great candidate in Commissioner
24 Greenfield. I appreciate the compliment, but I would love to defer to him.

25 Chair McDougall: Do we have any other nominations. Do I have a motion to close
26 nominations?

27 Motion to close nominations for the office of Vice Chair was moved by Commissioner
28 Moss and seconded by Commissioner McCauley. 6-0 Reckdahl absent

1 Chair McDougall: I'd like to congratulate Commissioner Greenfield on his new position
2 as Vice Chair.

3 Ms. O'Kane: I think we still have to vote.

4 Ms. Khwaja: Commissioner Greenfield has won the election.

5 Chair McDougall: Now I can congratulate you.

6 Ms. O'Kane: I would like to thank both of you not only for the work you did this past
7 year. It has been a pleasure working with both of you. You've both challenged me, and I
8 appreciate that. I look forward to another year of working with the both of you.

9 Chair McDougall: I'm sure we're excited to work with you.

10 Vice Chair Greenfield: Absolutely. I look forward to continuing another year and
11 growing our relationship further.

12 Commissioner Cribbs: I wanted to thank you and Commissioner Greenfield for serving
13 again and all of what you have learned. I'd also like to thank the other Commissioners at
14 the table because everybody has done a fine job this year. We appreciate working with
15 you and the Department. It's going to be a good year again.

16 Chair McDougall: I hesitate to use the word team, but I really do like the complementary
17 nature of all of the people here and the work they've done. Commissioner Cribbs, wait
18 until you find what ad hocs we find for you.

19 **4. Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan**

20 Chair McDougall: The next item is the Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan. This is an
21 update from the November meeting, where we had a really interesting meeting and an
22 awful lot of comments and questions. I very much appreciate the fact that you're coming
23 back with a response. I've seen the presentation you have, and I think it deliberately,
24 directly addresses the questions that were raised at the time. Thank you.

25 Pam Boyle Rodriguez: Good evening, Commissioners. Thank you for having us back.
26 Yes, we did try to address a lot of the concerns and questions. Please feel free to question
27 us again and challenge us to do even better. We just finished recently our 85-percent
28 draft version of what we call our GSI Plan or Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan.
29 We'll be making it available to the public this week, sending it out to various
30 stakeholders, and also putting it on our website. We are going to address some of the
31 concerns from last time. We wanted to provide a detailed summary of the plan.
32 Unfortunately, the agenda is pretty packed, so we have some limited time. We wanted to
33 go over a couple of things and hopefully in the context of providing some information

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1 about the plan also address your questions. When we were here in November, we wanted
2 to tell you a little bit about the progress we had done in developing the plan. We gave
3 broad strokes over the challenges that we had identified and the proposed solutions that
4 we had included in the plan. You wanted more specifics. We're here to provide more
5 specifics, to provide a little bit more about our funding ideas. You mentioned habitat and
6 trees, so I wanted to tell you a little bit more about that. One item about the plan is out of
7 the 15 chapters there is one chapter that goes in detail over how we've prioritized project
8 locations for potential GSI projects or green stormwater infrastructure. These are
9 locations that the City owns, so we only focused on City-owned projects. The first step
10 that helped us prioritize project locations was the SWRP or Stormwater Resource Plan. It
11 was done by the Santa Clara Valley Water District and SCVURPP, which is a long
12 acronym for the Santa Clara County stormwater program basically. They helped to
13 create one for each municipality in the planning region. There was a prioritized list for
14 each city for both parcels and streets. We used the parcel list and started with that and
15 built upon that to have a pretty lengthy list of parcels that the City owns, very small to
16 pretty large like City Hall. We came up with some criteria that we thought would work
17 well for the City, using some of what was used for the Stormwater Resource Plan and
18 also some that came from staff conversations of other important criteria. We allocated
19 values to that criteria, and then we were able to assign priorities to each project location
20 after assigning criteria, allocating the values, and then totaling those values. What does
21 that mean? We wanted to give you an example of a couple of criteria. One criteria is
22 project status. Basically, we divided it into two different categories. One is whether
23 there's a planned project at this location and whether it's included in the adopted capital
24 budget. If so, if it's already planned and there's already interest from another department,
25 we gave it higher value than if there's no project planned at this location. Another criteria
26 was if there's a proximity to an existing bikeway or a Safe Route to School per the
27 bike/ped plan. We're really focusing on trying to bring connectivity to the City. If there
28 was a project location that already had a bikeway or a Safe Route to School, we gave it
29 less value because we want to have more bikeways. GSI brings a lot of safety features as
30 well, as we talked about last time, so we gave it a higher value to give it a higher priority.
31 Those are examples of two criteria. When you look at the plan, you can see the other
32 criteria that we used. What resulted was this list of parcels that we gave a priority to.
33 Just to let you know, some we just pulled out of the whole list because it didn't make
34 sense to put a project there. It was just too small or there were some other reasons that
35 didn't work. For that 85th percentile, we assigned it a high priority. There are 29
36 locations where we think projects can happen. Out of those 29, there are three that are
37 parks. The 25th percentile, we gave it a low priority. In between, we gave it the medium
38 priority. As you can see, most parks align with the medium priority. That's because
39 some of the criteria that we looked at—for example, areas that tend to generate more
40 trash got a higher value because we want to put projects there so we can collect more
41 trash. Parks don't tend to have as much trash. They are considered medium-generating
42 or moderate-generating areas. We looked at groundwater recharge areas. Project



1 locations that were in groundwater recharge areas received a higher score. We looked at
2 those that were in what we call key development areas, Downtown, the Cal. Ave. area,
3 the South of Forest Avenue. Those that were within those areas received a higher value.
4 In terms of how the criteria played out, a lot of the parks ended up having medium
5 priority. This is based on—one thing I really wanted to stress is that it's based on
6 unbiased criteria because we want to present that to both staff and the public for
7 comments, and we also want to present this to the Water Board to show them that we
8 have an unbiased process in place that we might be able to use in the future as well. This
9 is Phase I. Phase II will be after we receive comment from staff, public as well, but in
10 particular as staff because then we'll find out what staff might have in mind that's not
11 explicit in the CIP budget book, for example. We might change some of those priorities
12 around. We've gotten some comments already about a couple that are in the medium
13 priority that will probably be moving up to high. Just to give you a sense of how these
14 projects are—this is a very broad-scale map. Red is high priority. Orange is medium.
15 Green is low. When you look at the plan, in the appendix, there's a lot of different maps
16 that we've created, GIS-based maps, that show all the different criteria in map base. You
17 can zoom into these different quadrants and see which locations have been assigned a
18 particular priority based on this Phase I vetting process. I think we talked a little bit
19 regarding the requirement that we have to integrate GSI language and a method to
20 identify GSI project potential in all our planning documents for the City. We've
21 identified two that we consider higher priority that we want to focus on first. One is the
22 Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan, and the other is the Storm Drain Master Plan.
23 The Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan really provides a lot of opportunities for
24 us to create more green streets as I mentioned last time, such as the Charleston-
25 Arastradero Corridor project, when we can really get more bang for our buck, for our
26 budget, where we can create safety features and bring multiple benefits by bringing GSI
27 to streets. We think highly considering GSI when there's a bike/ped project that's being
28 considered is really important. Because there is no set date for the next update, we
29 suggest doing some kind of interim policy that will direct staff to consider GSI during the
30 project scoping process. The same thing for the Storm Drain Master Plan. It identifies
31 priorities for updates to the traditional storm drain infrastructure. We think we should be
32 considering GSI at the same level that we're considering traditional infrastructure so that
33 we can treat smaller storms with GSI and not just focus on putting in more pipes. I think
34 there's a way we can look at both. There are going to be times where all we can do is put
35 in pipes because that would be the best solution, but we think we should encourage
36 everyone to look at the system a little bit different. As we mentioned before, we're trying
37 to create a change throughout the City of getting folks to have GSI at the forefront.
38 That's one way. We have some great opportunities right now because there are two
39 plans, one of which you're about to hear about and the other is going to be done next
40 year. Both of these areas provide an amazing amount of opportunity for us to integrate
41 GSI throughout the property. The North Ventura planning area, there is Matadero Creek
42 right there. There's a park right there. Both of those need improvements. It provides an



1 opportunity for the public to give comments, to provide feedback. What we do at staff is
2 participate in meetings and try to talk to staff to get the scope broadened and consider
3 GSI. The sea level rise policy is going to go to Council this year. We've integrated GSI
4 language in there. There will be a plan coming up in the next couple of years, and we'll
5 be looking at how to address sea level rise with various solutions including GSI. The last
6 is the Tree and Landscape Technical Manual that you may have heard about. That's
7 being updated and will hopefully be finalized this year. We're working very closely with
8 Urban Forestry to address how we cannot just integrate GSI into these manuals but how
9 to start considering tree plantings as another way to bring GSI to streets. There was a
10 comment made last time about lack of the City measuring performance at GSI facilities.
11 We agree; we need to do better. We're going to start doing that, one, with our
12 maintenance and monitoring plan. We're going to go out to all of our GSI facilities and
13 assess how effective they are, how well they're performing and change the way we do
14 maintenance so they can be more effective. We're going to have software to track these
15 sites, to track how often they're being maintained and how effective they're being over
16 time. We're going to provide a lot more project oversight. In the plan, we're proposing a
17 performance rating tool so we can track how well these sites are performing over time
18 based on the information that we're going to start collecting with our monitoring
19 techniques. We can then provide some information to the public. When we're trying to
20 get grants, we can show how well these sites are performing. In terms of funding, we
21 have a lot of work to do. I did want to present some of what we're doing so far. This pie
22 chart shows how the current stormwater fee is allocated. Other includes staffing, the
23 storm drain system maintenance, emergency response, debt service. Twenty-four percent
24 is the upgrades to the traditional storm drain system, and 7 percent is for GSI. That 7
25 percent is intended for construction or for programs but not for maintenance. The great
26 news is that we have some money to leverage getting more funds. We need to get
27 funding for more GSI facilities and definitely to be able to maintain them. It doesn't
28 make sense to construct them and then ignore them or not appropriately maintain them.
29 We need more funding for that. We've identified the need. We have currently a contract
30 in place, and hopefully by May we'll have an initial assessment done. That's intended to
31 help us look at what kind of fees are in place right now, how they were set up, what kind
32 of nexus study was done. That'll help us determine what our long-term plan will be. A
33 long-term plan may involve surveys, maybe a nexus study for our own fee. That's to be
34 determined. Just to let you know what's in the works, and we can provide updates as we
35 go along. For implementation, there was—I just wanted to share what our staff is doing
36 because in reality our team of two is working hard on GSI planning. That's why we need
37 support from consultants, but that's why we're also working really hard to try to foster a
38 culture change throughout the City so that we can get support from all the departments.
39 When we update our plans, when we have different policies in place, and when we help
40 educate everyone to understand the multiple benefits of this GSI, we'll have additional
41 support. We are also building our skills. Staff created a lot of the maps that are in the
42 plan. We're having a lot of meetings, and we're trying to facilitate a lot of different



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1 conversations between departments to make sure when plans are being reviewed and
2 when we're scoping projects that the different departments are really talking to each
3 other. In terms of increasing habitat, one thing I don't think we addressed was, when
4 we're doing the stormwater code update that's going to go to Council in April, we're also
5 requiring—all new projects and redeveloped projects or projects that require a building
6 permit have to meet a lot of different requirements. One of those is have Bay-friendly
7 landscaping practices. That means they have to use integrated pest management. They
8 can't use pesticides or herbicides. They have to focus on using a lot of mulch and
9 compost, use drought-tolerant and native plants. Not only do they have to do that for the
10 initial design, but they're supposed to be doing that from that point on. When we do
11 inspections of businesses, we can check on what's happening with those. We're going to
12 relook at the plant palette internally so we can consider how we can increase habitat as
13 well. This plan focuses on public property, City-owned property, but we are going to
14 look further once this plan is accepted at how we can create more GSI on private
15 property. Some things that we're considering and putting forth as ideas in the plan are
16 perhaps to decrease the size threshold that triggers requirement for GSI on private
17 property, creating an alternative compliance program. If there's going to be a
18 development and it's built lot line to lot line and stormwater treatment can't fit onsite,
19 perhaps that applicant either pays a fee toward a fund that helps construct or maintain
20 public GSI or perhaps they construct GSI on our public right-of-way next to their project.
21 That could come about in different ways. We need to dig in and figure out how to make
22 that happen. Another thing is there are requirements from Public Works, from Utilities,
23 from Transportation a lot of times for private projects to have improvements in the street
24 and sidewalks and sometimes with infrastructure. If those improvements are already
25 happening, then we should look at how we can also require GSI installations. It does
26 bring in some questions of who will maintain those features. That's why we're not
27 jumping into making those requirements. We need to dig into it deeper. Finally, January
28 2019, we're here. We're meeting with the Planning and Transportation Commission next
29 week. We're meeting with the Stormwater Oversight Committee. As I said, we're
30 making the 85-percent plan public. We're hoping to receive comments next month.
31 We'll follow up with a 100-percent draft. After that's out for review, we're going to have
32 a public meeting and then hope to have some final comments and in May release the final
33 plan. We're hoping to go to Council at the end of May for acceptance of the plan by City
34 Council. Hopefully, it won't go past the end of June or so. We've added some extra time
35 in case we need to go back. That's it.

36 Chair McDougall: I think you did a nice job of addressing many of the questions we
37 brought up. I'm going to open the floor to the Commission relative to anybody who has
38 questions. I'll start with Ryan.

39 Commissioner McCauley: Do you mind going back briefly to the slide that showed the
40 percentiles and the number of projects? Maybe I'm misunderstanding. It seems as



1 though the percentile number doesn't relate to the number of projects column. Is that
2 right?

3 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: The percentile column relates to some information we're not
4 providing, but it is in the plan. It relates to the total value that each project location
5 receives. Let's say the highest value was 35 points because for each of those criteria there
6 was a point allocated, and we had 10 or 12 types of criteria. We added those values, gave
7 a value to each of those project locations, and then we looked at the 85th percentile out of
8 that range of values.

9 Commissioner McCauley: You had more than 15 percent of the projects in the 85-100
10 percentile, right?

11 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: Right.

12 Commissioner McCauley: Which are the three parks that fall into that high priority? Do
13 you know?

14 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: That is a good question. I will be asking my teammate over here.
15 She'll look it up, and we can provide that to you.

16 Commissioner McCauley: We can come back to that.

17 Commissioner LaMere: Do you have readily available information for private property
18 owners or will there be information available to them if they want to pursue some GSI
19 projects on their own, not through redevelopment, not through any sort of force from the
20 City or fear of penalty, but just through their good-natured citizenship and wanting to
21 help the Baylands and so forth?

22 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: I'm assuming you're talking about commercial, industrial, or any?

23 Commissioner LaMere: I'm actually referring more to existing private property owners
24 who want to pursue a project for GSI. Will you have available resources or ability to
25 direct them or recommend native plants or whatever might be appropriate?

26 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: We do have some resources that we provide. They're County-
27 level resources that are provided to folks who need to meet the requirements. It would
28 make sense that those same resources be shared so that we can have consistency for
29 design and construction. If it's something more simple, like just wanting to keep runoff
30 onsite, we do have some other resources that don't have to meet engineering
31 specifications. We do have a rebate program for—I don't know the actual rebate amount.
32 I think it depends on the type of green infrastructure that is installed. It's for rain cisterns,
33 pervious pavement. Karin, do you know? I know there's one other item, but I don't

1 remember what it is. Currently, we don't fund rebates for bioretention areas. That's
2 something that we're going to look further into.

3 Ms. North: It's also rain barrels and green roofs.

4 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: I don't believe we've ever provided a rebate for a green roof. I
5 think that's a good idea to provide additional support. We do have a new landscape
6 architect in Urban Forestry. She'll be working with us to inspect GSI features during
7 construction. I'll provide that feedback to them to see if they might be able to help out
8 with that too.

9 Commissioner Cribbs: Thank you very much. I'm glad you left that slide up because I
10 had a question about it as well. Could we find out what are the 22 parks on that list?
11 That would be really interesting. I wasn't able to come to the meeting in November, so I
12 missed the whole thing. I'm trying to catch up. If you went into one of those parks,
13 either the one in the top tier or the medium tier, what would happen at the park when you
14 decided to utilize this program?

15 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: To address those top three parks, since I have those right here.
16 They are Greer Park, Mitchell Park, and Peers Park. In terms of the 22 parks, maybe I
17 can have Isabel put it up on the computer if you want to see the list of 22 parks.

18 Commissioner Cribbs: That would be great or if you could show us where to get to that
19 map that was there. It's not in the attachment for our agenda. At least, I didn't find it.

20 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: It's in the plan itself.

21 Commissioner Cribbs: If we find the plan, we'll see the map?

22 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: I'm not sure if we provided a link to you, but we can provide a
23 link. Can we send a link to them?

24 Commissioner Cribbs: You don't have to do anything for all the parks. Take one park
25 and say, "this is what happens to this park."

26 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: It would really depend on the type of park and the location. It
27 could be anywhere from a small project—for example, if a parking lot is being replaced,
28 we could consider putting some kind of green stormwater infrastructure, maybe a
29 bioretention area, maybe adjusting the way it drains so that it all drains to a bioretention
30 area. We could even adjust the way it drains so that it drains to landscaping instead of
31 the street. That's not as engineered as a bioretention area, but in a sense it meets a lot of
32 the same requirements. It could be a larger project. If there's enough room and enough
33 public support, maybe we capture rainwater and reuse it for irrigation. That would have
34 to be a pretty large project where we would put underground tanks.

1 Vice Chair Greenfield: Thank you for the updated presentation. I had a question
2 regarding the priority for near bikeways versus not near bikeways. The GSI gets higher
3 priority if it's not near a current bikeway or Safe Route to School. Is that because of the
4 inherent conflicts in the paths? I'm trying to understand the reasoning there.

5 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: If we wanted to put additional bioretention like at Middlefield and
6 Kellogg, it's a perfect example because it was put in as a bike/ped safety project. I'm not
7 sure if you're familiar with that.

8 Vice Chair Greenfield: I'm not sure about that one, but go ahead.

9 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: They put in some safety features. They put in some bulb-outs or
10 bump-outs, but they're also bioretention areas. Before, that was not a safe biking area. If
11 we had considered it in terms of priority, we would have given it a higher priority
12 because it didn't have a safe bike area, but it was in the bike/ped plan as a planned bike
13 project. If it's a park for example, a lot of parks already have bikeways or bike lanes
14 around the park, so we consider that very positive. In terms of putting it on a priority list,
15 we want to put it lower on the priority list because there are already bikeways there.
16 Whereas, a park that doesn't have any bikeways or any location that doesn't have any
17 bikeways, we might want to use GSI and also bring a bike safety feature and add more
18 connectivity to the City.

19 Vice Chair Greenfield: The prioritization is really based on expanding the overall
20 network of bikeways.

21 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: Yes.

22 Vice Chair Greenfield: My next question, which you've sort of answered and which
23 dovetails on Anne's questioning, is I'm still struggling to see the big picture, to see what
24 these examples are, in particular for the bikeways and the Safe Routes to School. Could
25 you just describe some of the GSI techniques or methods or what the infrastructure
26 changes would be and what it would look like for bikeways?

27 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: I apologize; I don't have more examples. We only have 20
28 minutes on the agenda, so we couldn't bring too much more. I'm trying to think.
29 Mitchell Park, as you already know, has a lot of GSI. What we call GSI at that park is it
30 has a green roof. That's a pretty typical type of green stormwater infrastructure. It is,
31 however, pretty expensive to maintain, and that's something I mentioned before. In terms
32 of projects we're dying to do, we're not dying to do that one. It is a type of GSI, and it's
33 something we'll consider when there's appropriate funding. That site also has some
34 pervious pavement, not where the driving lanes are because that tends to get clogged
35 pretty fast, and that's harder to maintain. In some of the parking stalls right across from
36 the café, you'll notice there's a different kind of pavement. That's because it's pervious.

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1 Those stalls are pervious, and underneath are what's called suspended pavement systems.
2 They hold soil. They also allow the water to infiltrate through that pavement, go into the
3 suspended pavement systems, and go into that bioretention area in the median. That
4 median as a bioretention area is capturing all the runoff from not the roof but the parking
5 lot and any other hardscape including the sidewalks. That's pervious pavement and a
6 green roof and a bioretention area. Those are three types. That's a very large project. I'm
7 not necessarily suggesting that we would put that at all parks because that's pretty
8 expensive. The reason they did that was because initially they were required and then
9 they went above and beyond. Now it's a pilot project. It's a great project. There's a
10 smaller example at Rinconada where there's a small bioretention area by the library. It
11 receives rainwater from the parking lot and pumped groundwater from the basement of
12 the Art Center. That provides two different benefits.

13 Vice Chair Greenfield: Could you elaborate on some of the bikeway GSI?

14 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: Sure. Aside from Middlefield/Kellogg, there are some
15 improvements we need to make in terms of bikeways.

16 Vice Chair Greenfield: What ideas are not necessarily what's implemented right now but
17 what could be implemented?

18 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: The best thing is to put bulb-outs. Let's say there is a parking
19 lane. You would build out an area to help slow down traffic. We actually showed it ...

20 Vice Chair Greenfield: You're reducing the pavement.

21 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: Reducing the pavement, slowing down traffic, allowing area for a
22 pedestrian walkway. Schools are great areas for that.

23 Vice Chair Greenfield: You mentioned GSI currently is getting 7 percent of the storm
24 drain fees from the City. What kind of number are we talking about overall for the
25 budget?

26 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: For GSI construction, it's \$380,000 a year. For that rebate
27 program we discussed and any other fees that can go maybe toward helping us hire a
28 consultant to do additional work on a funding analysis, for example, is \$125,000.

29 Commissioner Moss: I would hope that you could work on the private side as quickly as
30 possible. I understand you've got a lot to do for the City side. It seems like you have
31 more control over the City side and less control over the private side. It's going to take
32 longer and be more of a hassle, if you could start on that a little bit. I know the City side
33 will get done, but the private side is so important and there's so much more. Is there a
34 chance that we won't have any stormwater reaching the Baylands when you're all done? I

1 rode my bike by there today, and there's a beautiful lake now because of all that rain. It's
2 always much lower or none existent in the summer.

3 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: There's a chance to greatly decrease that stormwater runoff.
4 Anything is possible, but it comes at such a great cost, it's probably not going to happen.
5 We can do a lot to keep runoff onsite. If everyone can get their neighbors to disconnect
6 their downspouts, we could just make little changes along the way.

7 Commissioner Moss: I love the pervious pavement at Mitchell Park. You're saying the
8 priority is more like Cal. Ave., which has a whole lot of parking spaces. You would be
9 able someday to punch holes underneath all of those parking spaces to allow more water
10 to go below there without having to tear up all the concrete and replace it with pervious
11 pavers. Is that doable?

12 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: To punch holes in pavement?

13 Commissioner Moss: Yeah.

14 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: It depends on what kind of soil is underneath and how permeable
15 it is. It probably wouldn't go over well with the engineers. I doubt it will help pavement
16 last very long. I understand your idea of trying to be creative and doing the most we can
17 with a small budget.

18 Commissioner Moss: That's your priority, those areas like Cal. Ave. and University Ave.
19 Is that what I heard you say?

20 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: That tends to come out as higher priority. The City owns a lot of
21 uncovered parking lots. Those came up really high in the list of priorities. Of course,
22 that's not based on feedback but based on our unbiased criteria. They're hollering for us
23 to come and put some GSI. That was North Carolina coming out there.

24 Commissioner Moss: As opposed to paved ones like Cubberley parking lot. Hopefully,
25 as you mentioned, in the Cubberley Master Plan, when you redo Cubberley you'll put
26 pervious pavement in all the parking areas that remain. Is that the plan?

27 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: We don't have a plan for any specific type of GSI feature.
28 Pervious would be one of the items we would consider.

29 Commissioner Moss: The elephant in the room is the groundwater pumping when you
30 have construction. Does your plan address that at all or is that totally separate?

31 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: It is totally separate.

1 Commissioner Moss: We just have to keep working that other side to keep them from
2 pumping all the water that they're pumping now because that's counterproductive to
3 everything you're doing.

4 Ms. North: Can I comment on that? That's one of our many hats, groundwater pumping,
5 within the Environmental Services Division. We are working on that. If you have
6 noticed, the dewatering rules and regulations got changed significantly. At least for
7 residential, we're seeing a decline in the amount of groundwater that's being pumped
8 during residential basement construction because they're utilizing groundwater cutoff
9 walls or secant walls now. We are working on that by restricting and strongly
10 encouraging reuse of that water. We will still be dealing with that for time to come.

11 Commissioner Moss: That's all I have.

12 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: Chair, am I allowed to ask a question?

13 Chair McDougall: Of course.

14 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: You mentioned the private project opportunities, and you wanted
15 us to move forward on that. I was just wondering if you had any specific type?

16 Commissioner Moss: No. I just know that we have a tremendous amount of construction
17 going on right now. It sure would be nice if they had some of these in mind even if they
18 were forced to do it. You're saying that those kinds of regulations are not in place yet.
19 Therefore, they have to do it out of the goodness of their heart. I noticed an abbreviation
20 in your report that had no description, LID. It says low-impact design. If you could spell
21 that out, I would appreciate it. I'm assuming developers know about these things even if
22 it's not required.

23 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: Private properties are required to meet some of our stormwater
24 permit requirements if they develop at least 10,000 square feet of impervious surface or a
25 restaurant or a parking lot or shopping center that's 5,000 square feet or more impervious
26 surface. Both of those types of categories have to put in stormwater treatment or what's
27 called GSI. There are some requirements in place. We would like to see if we can create
28 more opportunities.

29 Commissioner Moss: I have one more question. Where can a homeowner go to learn
30 about these things? We spent a whole lot of money taking the water off our roof and
31 away from the walls so we didn't get cracking and shifting. It went out to the street
32 because that's where you put it. It would have been better if we had spread it out to the
33 rest of our property and away from the buildings, but nobody knows about those things.
34 Is there any kind of communication that's coming out of your group, your staff?

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1 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: We do have a website, cityofpaloalto.org/GSI, on which we've
2 posted information about these requirements. The GSI Plan will be going on there this
3 week. We'll add some links; I think we already have some links on there to some other
4 resources that exist with information for residents.

5 Chair McDougall: I appreciate the fact that we rushed you in terms of content. I would
6 remind everybody that there were two presentations that came out. The first presentation
7 had an awful lot of information that would supplement some of the things you said. I
8 think that's valuable. Can you go to the one slide that had your timeline on it? You're
9 talking to PRC, Planning and Transportation, and the stormwater committee. I don't
10 know if the architectural board would help you relative to the kind of thing that
11 Commissioner Moss was asking about. I would think it would be worth at least talking to
12 them to find out. From the 11/27 meeting, you've answered a lot of questions. There was
13 an awful lot of conversation about trees at the time. I'm not sure that did come back as
14 much as might have, but I don't know that was necessary. There was a lot of talk about
15 rooftop. Your point is rooftops are good in terms of what they do initially. It's the cost of
16 maintaining them because you have to get water to them and everything. At the time, I
17 invited the Commission and I would invite you to visit the Facebook rooftops.
18 Commissioner Reckdahl went up with me last month, and that's a really interesting thing
19 to do. It's quite amazing how much natural structure there is up there and the size of the
20 trees. It's pretty impressive. Send me a message saying you want to go, and we'll arrange
21 that. The other conversation was about purple pipe. The other question from last time
22 was what can we do to help. I would repeat that question. This all sounds right, but it
23 sounds like you're doing a very difficult "pushing the ball up the hill" thing with the
24 amount of staff and money. It's going to depend on collaboration. Maybe that's the one
25 place we can be vocal about collaboration. You need collaboration with Urban Forestry
26 and Planning. You need collaboration all over the place because you can't do it alone.
27 We could commit to at least, when somebody comes before us—to bad for the Cubberley
28 people who come next—to ask about GSI. That would be the kind of contribution we
29 can make. Other than that, we should find a time in the future to invite you back and
30 continue the updates because this is important to the natural infrastructure of the City that
31 we're interested in. Thank you for coming back. Thank you for attempting the short
32 time. I know it was challenging for you to move that fast.

33 Ms. Boyle Rodriguez: I do have a question. I don't know how your ad hocs work.
34 Would it make sense to involve one of your ad hocs a little bit more in-depth with this
35 work?

36 Chair McDougall: We have a retreat coming up. One of the things we do at the retreat is
37 agree on the priorities for the next year and, therefore, what ad hocs we should have. I'll
38 commit that we'll add that to the conversation and come back to you on whether we can
39 put together an ad hoc that would work on that with you. Good idea.

1 Ms. North: Chair McDougall, I can make another suggestion if you're really interested.
2 The Stormwater Oversight Committee is actually writing a letter to the City Council
3 supporting the Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan. When you're going to your retreat,
4 maybe that's something the Parks and Rec Commission could do as well. That also helps
5 us get it through City Council.

6 Chair McDougall: Thank you for that suggestion. I think we would want to get full
7 Commission agreement on doing that. I'll put that forward. Thank you. If there's
8 nothing else.

9 Vice Chair Greenfield: I just have a quick question regarding the idea of an ad hoc for
10 GSI. That would require staff support and a liaison of some sort. I'm assuming that's
11 implicit with the suggestion.

12 Chair McDougall: Any other comments or questions? If not, thank you again, Pam.
13 We'll move on to the next conversation. I thought that was well done.

14 **5. Cubberley Master Plan Update**

15 Bobbie Hill: Good evening. Nice to see you all again. It's been a while.

16 Ms. O'Kane: I'd like to introduce our next item. To my left is Bobbie Hill. She's with
17 our consulting firm, Concordia. You've met Bobbie before. Since she's in town for our
18 community meeting Thursday, it would be a great opportunity for her to come and share
19 with you the progress we've made so far, a summary of our first two community
20 meetings, and what we have planned for the next phase of our master planning effort. I'm
21 going to turn it over to Bobbie for the presentation.

22 Ms. Hill: Thank you so much. I'm delighted to be here this evening and to give you a
23 detailed update of where we are with our planning thus far. One very important thing to
24 note is that in the beginning the project just covered the Cubberley site. At the first
25 meeting, there were a handful of people who specifically came up and mentioned would
26 it not be a good idea to also include the Greendell and 525 sites. We're happy to say that
27 the School District agreed that was a good idea. That has allowed us a bigger footprint
28 and an opportunity to address the ideas and concerns in a way that's going to be quite
29 wonderful. That's where we are with that. Our Co-Design process is well underway. We
30 have finished our programming phase. I will hand this to you when we're done. I have a
31 brief summary of a roughly 150-page document that is our programming document and
32 that I believe you have a link to. It's also on the project website. This highlights that
33 phase of the work. In Meeting 1, you see here from the activity the ideas that rose to the
34 top. You can see community garden, pool, wellness center, and on down the list. After
35 Meeting 1 and after that analysis, we brought that back to people. We also asked folks to
36 consider not only the programs that are there, that we know are very popular, but also

1 what opportunities there were for new programs. As a result of the second meeting, a
2 number of programs additionally rose to the top. This is one of the meetings where the
3 whole notion of the Greendell site and in particular the adult education, which is spread
4 amongst seven to nine different facilities all around. Not consolidated makes it a lot
5 harder to manage. It was a recommendation to bring that all on the Cubberley site.
6 Meeting 1 and 2, we focused on the programming aspect of it. This resulted in our
7 programming document—I will share that with you all—where we look at again existing
8 uses, what is there, and what people wanted and how they wanted to see some of these
9 expanded to the Greendell site. We looked at the new programs that people wanted. In
10 this particular slide, the blue designates the indoor spaces, and the gray designates the
11 outdoor spaces. I'll share more in detail a little bit about that later on. This is the
12 programming document that is now set. I want to note that the program that people say
13 they want now—we have to consider the life of this site for the next 50, 60, 70 years.
14 One of the key elements of this design process is to also consider maximum flexibility in
15 the design of those spaces and the adjacencies and things because we know that
16 something might be there for a few years, and 10, 20 years down the road it might be
17 something very different. Also, at those meetings, we had an aspect of trying to
18 understand people's tolerance for massing, for density, what that would mean in terms of
19 laying the site out and also considering the programs that are there and all of the footprint
20 they have and how we might be more creative in managing that square footage and also
21 bring greater green space back to the area. We heard very strongly from people about
22 maximizing green space, preserving the fields, using underground or structure parking,
23 and a tolerance for building heights between two and four stories and an interest in
24 courtyards and possibly occupiable roofs. In the second meeting, we took those ideas and
25 brought them to everybody in three concepts, if you will, independent campuses between
26 the City and the School District, a shared village, and a building in a park. People gave
27 us their ideas about that, their preferences, what they did like, what they didn't like about
28 that. We ranked those, and based on that ranking and all those comments the shared
29 village concept was really more preferable to everybody. That's where we are at this
30 point. While we've established the program, we are now going to bring this revised
31 shared village concept design to the meeting on Thursday. We'll be focusing in three
32 areas, the program, organization, and massing. We have considered many things in terms
33 of the program, organization, and massing. We've considered the property and the
34 programs that are strictly City-run and operated. We've considered properties that would
35 involve shared use between the City and the School District and then also future priorities
36 for the School District to potentially have a school and even potentially move the District
37 offices onto this site. Another thing that came up a lot in the conversations in the past
38 two meetings was also consideration for workforce housing for education staff. Here we
39 are with the plan as it stands right now. What you're seeing here would be what the site
40 would look like prior to any new school development on the site. The decision from the
41 School District, in particular for building a school on this site, would probably come
42 much farther down the road. What you see here in blue are what we would consider the



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1 City programs. The purple is the shared use. As we go into this, I'll share with you right
2 here. The health and wellness center is here, visual arts, two gyms, a maker space and
3 workshop, a performing arts and café, a redo of the Greendell Elementary School, and the
4 adult school. Right now, the adult school does have some programs at Greendell, but this
5 would allow them to move a lot of their programs there, a lot of their administrative staff
6 there, and also to utilize the shared facilities in Cubberley. For instance, the maker space
7 would be one they'd probably use. We also have a multiuse event space and kitchen.
8 There would be the school footprint in red. The long rectangular building that's farthest
9 to the left would be the relocation of the District offices. Over on San Antonio, the
10 yellow blocks could potentially be housing. We'll focus now on what we're talking about
11 for the outdoor spaces. In the plan thus far, we're able to preserve the existing soccer and
12 softball fields. We have a small skate park. There's lots of talk about bringing pickleball
13 courts there, so we have that. We have a playground, tennis courts, a small dog park, and
14 a pool. We have an outdoor exercise area that's also located very near the health
15 program, an amphitheater, flexible garden space, the childcare play area for the childcare
16 programs that now are functioning at Cubberley, a central promenade that runs through
17 the campus, a school quad, an outdoor café and seating, and a playground for the
18 Greendell program. If you look to the left, you'll see the existing site and what we have
19 in terms of parking and access roads and building footprint. With the design that we have
20 now, we have increased the green space significantly. We now have 59 percent more
21 green space than we did before. We have a smaller building footprint with more than
22 double the indoor area. We're able to potentially bring all the programs that exist at
23 Cubberley now and all the new programs that the community members want, a school,
24 District offices, and housing. What we're going to be focusing on in this next meeting in
25 three activities is we will have people spend the first part of the time looking at the
26 program, organization, and massing and then giving us their comments and feedback on
27 where we stand with that. We're going to really drill down and look at the circulation for
28 cars, bikes, and pedestrians, entries and egresses, and have people comment on that as
29 well. We have also engaged our traffic and parking consultant. We've had, I think, a
30 couple of meetings with them. We'll have one with them. We have 1,800 bike stalls, 800
31 for the community center and 1,000 for the future school use. We'll go through a
32 presentation and explain those different aspects up close, and then we'll have people at
33 tables give us their comments and concerns about the circulation and parking. For the
34 last part of the activity, we're going to start to talk about architectural style and
35 preferences. We've looked around Palo Alto and the surrounding area and gotten a sense
36 of what we see as most prominent in terms of architectural styles, Mid-Century Modern,
37 Arts and Crafts, Mission, Contemporary, and High Tech. We have examples of existing
38 buildings that are familiar to people. We will ask them to tell us what they like, rank
39 them individually, tell us the features they like about these different architectural
40 elements, and then rank them overall. We'll do the same thing for landscape style
41 preferences. We'll be looking at shapes and forms in landscape, hardscape, and paving
42 and color palette and get people's comments on the look and feel for that. To speak to the



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1 previous presentation—this is something that's a big concern of ours—consider the
2 sustainability, the environmental impact on the site, and to bring the best knowledge and
3 certainly collaboration amongst all City departments in this project to be sure that it can
4 be a stellar example for bringing some of these new ideas across the entire campus. We
5 have engaged our parking and traffic consultant, energy and sustainability consultants.
6 We've put some word out. They are still to be determined. The environmental impact
7 will be the City's CEQA consultant. We also are soliciting proposals from cost
8 estimating and phasing consultants as well. After the feedback from this meeting, we
9 will come back with three to six alternates that consider all of these different aspects.
10 They'll consider the look and feel, the biking, parking, and circulation, and the phasing,
11 which is something we've begun to look at internally and with staff. Once we get this last
12 round of information, we'll have much more information about how to best phase that
13 with the least amount of interruption as possible. Our next meeting is Thursday night.
14 We have a big chunk of work between that meeting and May. We are working on a
15 schedule with Kristen to look at all the different boards and commissions that need to be
16 updated and have their input. We'll be doing that over the next four months as we bring
17 in the consultants. On the 11th, we're meeting with the Commission and the Council. On
18 the 12th, we're meeting with the School Board to bring them up to speed.

19 Ms. O'Kane: Thank you, Bobbie. I did want to add just a couple of comments. While
20 this looks like we have a design, it's not a design. It's a starting point based on a
21 compilation of everything we've heard based on the shared village concept that was a
22 preference from the community. This is a starting point of getting feedback from the
23 community, from the Council, from the School Board, from the Parks and Rec
24 Commission. We'll be going to the Planning and Transportation Commission hopefully
25 in February as well. It looks like it's a design, but it's not. It's very conceptual and taking
26 all the pieces, putting them down on paper to see how it flows, to see how the adjacencies
27 work together to look at the circulation and traffic. I just wanted to be clear on that. As
28 Bobbie said, we are doing a City Council study session February 11th. The School Board
29 will be doing the same study session the next night. Thank you.

30 Chair McDougall: Thanks, Bobbie. That was really good. If you've been in any of the
31 sessions, you understand the design. When you end up with those big sheets laid out—
32 there's three of them—you understand what that is. It's a cumulation of the thoughts. I
33 want to compliment you right now on the process. It's been particularly good in terms of
34 involvement. I'm going to start differently from the inside out. Commissioner Cribbs.

35 Commissioner Cribbs: Could you tell us again how many people attended both sessions?

36 Ms. Hill: I think we had around 257 in the first meeting and around 150-some odd in the
37 second meeting.



1 Commissioner Cribbs: Do you know how many of the people who came to the second
2 were also at the first? Are they repeaters or new people?

3 Ms. Hill: I want to say we did have quite a few new people at the second meeting. I
4 don't know if I have those numbers exactly. I want to say half the people were new in the
5 second meeting.

6 Commissioner Cribbs: You've done this for a long time with a lot of different
7 communities. Are we a community of 60,000 people now, about? Sixty-five now, 66, so
8 we're growing. Is it troubling that we have 257 people?

9 Ms. Hill: Not at all. To be perfectly honest, if you have above 100 people who
10 consistently come and if you're drawing new people to the table, we've found that we
11 have the most creative input. When we get to the end of the project, we also have the
12 greatest acceptance of the plan.

13 Commissioner Cribbs: That's encouraging. Is there a way or a time that the staff
14 comments and observations about this plan at different times in the planning process get
15 somehow weighted or thrown into the mix? You all know when people say, "we don't
16 have this; we'd like to have this; this doesn't work; this works and I really love this; I
17 wish I had this." Staff has a real sense of those things.

18 Ms. O'Kane: Staff's been providing input all along. As a matter of fact, I shared this
19 presentation with Daren and Peter Jensen earlier today to get their feedback as
20 experienced park planners and knowing the community and how things are laid out in the
21 City. We're also meeting with our Transportation Department, Public Works, Planning,
22 Sustainability to get everyone's feedback along the way. Staff is definitely weighing in
23 on is that realistic, will this work. It is happening.

24 Ms. Hill: If I could just add one more thing that I want to reiterate. While we think about
25 the specifics about the programs and those kinds of things and we know enough from
26 what we're learning from community members in these meetings, we also know how to
27 take that information and create the most flexible space that can be a lot of different
28 things. What's really important is knowing what kind of square footage you need,
29 knowing what kind of adjacencies are going to make sense over time that will allow you
30 to share anything from infrastructure to outdoor space to any number of things. When
31 you have over 100 people doing this—they'll have two more opportunities—you're pretty
32 safe.

33 Commissioner Cribbs: Just a few more questions please, Chair. What's the size of the
34 pool?

1 Ms. Hill: I don't know. I would have to ask Connor. I don't know the answer to that. I
2 think it is big enough to be a lap pool.

3 Ms. O'Kane: It shows two. One is a lap pool, but I don't know if it's 25 or 50 meters.

4 Commissioner Cribbs: I'm assuming from looking at the pictures that it's not 50.
5 Hopefully, it's 25, but I can't tell how many lanes it is.

6 Ms. O'Kane: It's not that detailed.

7 Ms. Hill: We haven't gotten to that point yet.

8 Ms. O'Kane: We're not quite there yet. The other one is more recreational. There were
9 two pools shown.

10 Commissioner Cribbs: Are you convinced that the two gyms are enough or should there
11 be a push to do a bigger gym to make sure we can accommodate—gym space seems to be
12 the thing that's really necessary in all communities now that girls are playing sports as
13 much as boys. I just wondered if you felt like there was enough space for gyms based on
14 usage.

15 Ms. Hill: I don't know if I know the answer to that. It's certainly an important
16 consideration. The balance is understanding the not so clear picture of what the future
17 would be for the school, if there is a school there, and what that might be. That's one
18 thing that would factor into that. If I'm not mistaken, one gym is considerably bigger
19 than the other. We'll certain take that back to the team.

20 Commissioner Cribbs: I'd be interested in knowing that. At some point along the way, it
21 seems like you're going to be able to put a price tag and a phasing on this so that
22 everybody has that understanding of this beautiful picture that you've done with all the
23 phasing and green space and everything. I'm sure you can't have an answer to this
24 because it's really more about the City's space and an Option B since the School District
25 has an obligation to provide for the future and a possible future school. At some point
26 along the way, will staff consider what they might do with eight acres of City land?

27 Ms. O'Kane: We haven't discussed that. We're committed to doing a Master Plan
28 (crosstalk) lease agreement. There was the Cubberley Compact that was signed a couple
29 of years ago. We're not at a point where we would ...

30 Commissioner Cribbs: I understand that, and I understand both the School District and
31 the City are paying for the study. We hope to have a big community effort out of this.
32 The fact remains that we've been doing this for a really long time, and we still have
33 Cubberley the way it was 30 years ago. It seems like with all these beautiful pictures and
34 this thoughtfulness that perhaps there should be some thinking privately or publicly about

1 Plan B. If the School District needs to go forward and protect their space for a potential
2 school, what would the City then do?

3 Ms. O'Kane: It would be a very different design because, like you said, gym space is—
4 we need more gym space. The City doesn't have any. It's all on School District property.

5 Ms. Hill: In this plan—let me see if I can pull it up. The way we've done this in
6 consideration of what you're talking about is to put the programs that we know are City-
7 specific within the City's footprint. The blue is the City. The purple would be shared.
8 Let's play it out. If everything were there, there's still no reason you can't have the school
9 and you can't have the shared space. Maybe the City doesn't get as much of that shared
10 space as much of the time as they typically do. We did this in Emeryville, and it's really
11 a matter of there's going to have be a land use conversation. There's going to have to be
12 how do you own and operate this together and separately, what do you own together, and
13 scheduling. It can be done. It's being done on eight acres in Emeryville in some much
14 more challenging ways and constraints.

15 Commissioner LaMere: I appreciate all your work on this. Do we have any idea of the
16 demographics of the people who are attending the meetings?

17 Ms. Hill: I think we do. We have been collecting at least ZIP codes. I don't have that
18 analysis for you, but we can certainly get that for you.

19 Commissioner LaMere: I'm also asking about age of participants. I attended the first
20 meeting, but I wasn't able to get to the second one. Being able to make sure who we're
21 gathering input from is extremely important. I didn't know if we had an idea of age
22 ranges or anything like that.

23 Ms. Hill: We can come back with some more detailed information on that. I wasn't able
24 to make it, but we did have a session at Gunn High School today. We're trying to do one
25 at Paly as well. The kids are so busy. We wanted to have extra time to reach out to them.
26 These are young kids who will use the space much more than you all sitting here. We did
27 want to get some input from them.

28 Commissioner LaMere: Sometimes people who have more time right now, if they're
29 retired, are able to attend more meetings and end up with a bigger voice than other people
30 who aren't able to participate in the process. Keep that in mind. Flexibility, as you have
31 underscored, is extremely important. We don't know the future of where we're going.
32 When you're speaking with the younger kids, it's extremely important. Maybe we need a
33 small venue that can become an e-sports venue, for example. No one's really thinking
34 about e-sports or we weren't thinking about that a few years ago. All of a sudden, that's
35 becoming very popular. There are college campuses sponsoring it. It's becoming
36 something. There are a lot of things out there that we don't even know about. Keep that



1 in mind. Is City staff able to get out and tour other facilities similar to what we're trying
2 to do so that we have other ideas? We could see something and say, "This would be
3 something we would want for the City." Sometimes having a menu or being able to
4 travel places and see things is important as well.

5 Ms. O'Kane: We did tour the Emeryville Center for Community Life. The School
6 District and City staff did that together. We haven't physically gone to other similar
7 projects, but we've done a lot of online research to see what is out there.

8 Commissioner LaMere: Sometimes without seeing something, you don't know about it.

9 Ms. Hill: You don't know what you don't know.

10 Commissioner LaMere: That's one thing I like with the menus you showed, in terms of
11 architectural styles or landscaping styles. You're giving people something to choose from
12 as opposed to them trying to generate their ideas when they're not experts. Keep in mind,
13 when we look at what type of programming is important, what we're not thinking of
14 based on generations to come that will be using this and with changes. I really appreciate
15 all the time put into this and what's being generated and the ideas that can come from it.

16 Commissioner McCauley: This is really cool stuff. I envy you that you get to spend your
17 day ...

18 Ms. Hill: It's super fun.

19 Commissioner McCauley: ... all day with this sort of thing. Definitely try to reach out to
20 a wide variety of groups to receive feedback. I'm sure that's part of the plan. Go beyond
21 those who are able to attend meetings and try to obtain feedback and also buy-in to the
22 broader vision. This is amazing. My primary concern is that it seems as though it will be
23 incredibly expensive. This comes back to Anne's point. We've been talking for a very
24 long while, certainly longer than I've lived in Palo Alto, about what to do with Cubberley.
25 It's been a big conundrum. This is a huge step forward. From my perspective, if there's a
26 \$1 billion or more campus, it's going to be incredibly difficult to ever build momentum to
27 get something like that done. This looks like an amazing vision. How do you get to this
28 vision with a price tag that's probably really large at the moment and only going up in
29 view of the different constituencies in play between the School District and the City of
30 Palo Alto and the recognition of limited resources? That's a huge question, and I don't
31 expect you to tackle it. I am curious for you to allay the fear a little bit and also talk
32 about the phasing to the extent you can of how you would actually think about doing this
33 in phases, again without any commitment that it would be where things actually go. Give
34 some perspective on how you might do this in phases in a way that would be digestible.

1 Ms. Hill: Part of what we will do in this analysis going forward, especially when it looks
2 at the phasing, is to consider—you have to consider so many things at once. In looking at
3 the phasing, considering what does the phasing look like, how long will that take, then
4 what is the increase in cost the longer you wait. Trying to find a balance will be part of
5 our cost estimating analysis. We'll bring that analysis back to you to consider. When it
6 comes to these kinds of projects and the design, to me it's a balance of you want to be as
7 creative as you possibly can and have the biggest vision that you possibly can in order to
8 get people excited and want to do it, at the same time with not a blank checkbook. It's
9 really a balance of trying to find a way to put those two things together. You can create
10 these spaces in a way that can be exciting. There's a lot that can happen outside. We've
11 done a lot of schools, and schools don't have unlimited budgets certainly in most of the
12 places that we work. You have to find ways to be really creative without having it be
13 cost prohibitive. I don't know what to say except you really have to blend being very
14 visionary and very creative, at the same time understanding that there are cost constraints.
15 Something like this is also an opportunity to, especially with the City and the School
16 District collaboration and how that moves forward and how you develop certain
17 agreements, attract additional resources. That's not done in a lot of places, and it's not
18 necessarily easily done, but that's something outside funders would find very attractive.
19 You have to look at all those things.

20 Commissioner McCauley: That's as good a response as you probably can provide to my
21 very broad question. Maybe this will be a way to target the question more. Could you
22 provide a couple of examples of how you would phase this so that it would be digestible?

23 Ms. Hill: We actually have a phasing plan that we've kept under wraps until we get to
24 this next round.

25 Commissioner McCauley: I don't mean to push you to disclose things you're not ready to
26 disclose. Would a phase be where you do the blue buildings, for example, and then move
27 to the next ones?

28 Ms. Hill: There are two things to consider in the phasing. One is how do you maintain
29 the programs at Cubberley and have as little disruption as possible. The other is what's
30 operating right now is what the community wants to see. The phasing from the School
31 District, they don't have enough clear answers or directions yet, so it would make sense
32 that the blue buildings would likely be first. Again, we could share that with you. I don't
33 have it right now, but we do have at least a notion of what we think that might look like.
34 Whenever the next appropriate time to share that is, we can certainly do that. It's
35 something we've been thinking about from the beginning. It's so complicated that you
36 have to consider it from the beginning.

37 Ms. O'Kane: There are opportunities. The pavilion, the gyms, the theatre are already
38 situated opposite of where the blue buildings are, so ideally you would never lose use of a

1 particular building as something else was being built. The point being that phasing
2 would be very specific as to when this is being built, everything would go here, so we
3 wouldn't lose use and function of the facility.

4 Vice Chair Greenfield: Thank you for walking our community through this thoughtful
5 process. It's a challenging project and a challenging community and a challenging
6 dynamic. The ability to take the feedback and listen and respond, for example adding the
7 Greendell and 525 San Antonio sites to the project, is great. That goes a long way to
8 engendering trust within the community because it's a skeptical community, particularly
9 in a project that's been moving along as it has. I'm looking forward to hearing more
10 about the circulation plan from the transportation consultant. That's great that someone's
11 been engaged for that. The increases in overall usable space while also increasing the
12 green space are big wins that the community would support. Obviously, you can
13 accomplish that by going up, and that's a great mechanism to be able to employ. The
14 pool location and the dog park, my sense is they're filling space that isn't otherwise used.
15 I'm concerned that they're noisy features that are in close proximity to residences. That
16 seems like (crosstalk).

17 Ms. Hill: I suspect we'll get those comments from people on Thursday.

18 Vice Chair Greenfield: On the gym space, do you have a number of ... I'm curious if we
19 know the square footage of current gym space versus the plan for the new gym space.
20 What is the increase?

21 Ms. Hill: We do know that. I can't tell you the answer right now, but we know that. Our
22 original analysis is detailed on existing square footage and what the addition is. We can
23 share that with you.

24 Vice Chair Greenfield: Is the white square building a parking structure?

25 Ms. Hill: Yes.

26 Vice Chair Greenfield: Is that a four-story parking structure?

27 Ms. Hill: I think it's a three-story parking structure. We made it three stories by bumping
28 it out when the Greendell site was there. Otherwise, it would have had to be taller. Also,
29 we have parking under the tennis courts that's not fully underground so it doesn't require
30 air circulation.

31 Vice Chair Greenfield: I want to encourage all the Commission members to make it to
32 the meeting Thursday if they can, particularly if you haven't been to one. It's a unique
33 approach, and the City has seen a number of different approaches. Everyone attending
34 has an equal voice in a small-table setting, and it seems to be working well. My last

1 comment is to understand how the Parks and Rec Commission can help not only in the
2 current Co-Design process but moving forward beyond the Co-Design process into the
3 implementation phase and understand what role and assistance we can provide. We have
4 an ad hoc dedicated to assisting with the Cubberley design process and considering how
5 this ad hoc can be used more effectively or efficiently to help.

6 Ms. O'Kane: One of the big things that the Commission could do is advocate for the
7 project, not that you have to agree with everything, but to get the word out that we're
8 going through this process, that we have these community meetings where we want
9 people to sit at the table and do the activities. If you hear of people's reluctance, you
10 dispel the beliefs. This is a different process; it's unique and intended to be a co-design
11 process. Of course, share your feedback as much as you can. If you're hearing anything
12 else from the community on concerns people have, we would like to hear that as well.
13 Because it is a co-design with the whole community, we're not meeting necessarily with
14 individual groups. We don't have a stakeholder advisory group. Anyone and everyone
15 can come and share. We're hoping the Commission does that and also spreads the word
16 and helps us get people involved. There is an avenue for people to provide input online if
17 they are unable to attend a meeting. That's important information to have as well.

18 Commissioner Cribbs: Where do those comments go?

19 Ms. Hill: We review the site regularly. We're in constant review of it. We get emails,
20 and we stay on top of that and comment to people directly.

21 Vice Chair Greenfield: One final comment in response to concerns that Ryan and Jeff
22 have voiced. In terms of demographics, it's great to see the fellows include a number of
23 high school students from Gunn and Paly and that you're doing some outreach to the
24 younger age groups. The attendance is limited in that age group, not surprisingly. It's
25 great to get some voice.

26 Ms. Hill: To your question before, the fact that the School District and the City have
27 taken this on very publicly—we're meeting with different staff, departments, and
28 commissions, and we will continue to do that. In fact, we have a meeting to plan exactly
29 which commissions and councils we need to meet with in this next four-month period. A
30 lot can be said for very public, collaborative support and transparency with commissions
31 and councils speaking up and saying, "We're informed; we're doing this together; we're
32 listening; we're all in this; we're contributing our piece to it." That makes a big
33 difference.

34 Vice Chair Greenfield: There could be a place for a letter from the Commission to
35 Council at the appropriate point when there's a final plan for approval. That should be
36 something we ought to consider.

1 Ms. Hill: I suggest you also write one to the School Board.

2 Ms. O'Kane: That's a great suggestion.

3 Vice Chair Greenfield: It would be great for the School Board to see both sides of us.

4 Commissioner Moss: Thank you very much for all this work so far. This is a huge
5 amount of work. Talking about demographics, I'll be perfectly honest. I've been sending
6 out notes to the Greendell community and the Green Meadow community, which are my
7 communities, encouraging them to come. I hope there's a number of 94306s in that
8 population. They do represent a significant part of the variety of demographics, school
9 kids and older people. I haven't reached out to the Ventura community, which has a
10 tremendous number of apartment buildings. I haven't reached out to North Palo Alto.
11 The existing programs, I'm assuming you have representatives from the various people
12 who are there today, and they poll their clients or customers because I'm not doing that.

13 Ms. Hill: They are doing that. In fact, one of the first meetings we had, before we had
14 our first public meeting, was with the Cubberley tenants. They've attended the meetings.
15 They've been very vocal about their programs, as they should.

16 Commissioner Moss: I am not surprised by the rankings and the sheer number of items
17 that you have on there. You've done an outstanding job of identifying the stakeholders.
18 There must be 40 or 50 different stakeholder groups that are using it in some way, shape,
19 or form. I'm not seeing many missing ones in that huge list. Is the priority correct? I
20 don't know. Is the priority going to change? I don't know. Having them on the list and
21 having a representative is half the battle. I want to talk about this picture for this minute.
22 I echo Commissioner Greenfield's concern about the pools being so close to the houses.
23 Maybe some of those tennis courts and pickleball courts could be on the roof of some of
24 these buildings.

25 Ms. Hill: They're actually on a raised structure. They could be on some of the buildings
26 as well.

27 Commissioner Moss: If we could move the pool in closer and put something between the
28 pool and the houses, that might be better. I don't know how you can do it. On the
29 opposite end, the purple building that looks like a "C," that's on the Greendell site, is very
30 close to the houses behind. I wonder if you could make it an "I" instead of a "C" so
31 there's less footprint close to the houses. You'd have the same square footage in the
32 purple building, but it would look more like an "I" instead of an "C." That way you have
33 more of a buffer against those houses.

34 Ms. Hill: What exists right now is the flip of that. This is part of the phasing, how do
35 you keep something there, which is a greatly needed space. In order to build something

1 new, you have to build something new and then tear down the old. What Greendell looks
2 like right now is the opposite, but it is a "C" in the other direction.

3 Commissioner Moss: You'd build that so you could keep the old building there as long
4 as possible and the old programs untouched while you're building the new building.

5 Ms. Hill: The point is what's there now is not different than what's proposed. It's the
6 reverse image of itself.

7 Commissioner Moss: No, no, no. It's much closer to the housing. Do you see the green
8 space where Greendell is, that huge green space? You've filled that huge green space
9 with a purple "C" that is right up against those houses. I was just thinking, if there were
10 some green space remaining between ...

11 Ms. Hill: Between the houses and the thing.

12 Commissioner Moss: I don't know if you can change this picture before Thursday or if
13 you can make a note of it.

14 Ms. Hill: We'll make a note of it certainly. Again, these are the kind of comments that
15 we'll get from everybody. We'll take all that into consideration.

16 Commissioner Moss: Going back to what Commissioner McCauley was saying about
17 phasing, there's no question that this is a much bigger project because you added the 525
18 and the Greendell sites. I had brought that up at the very beginning, that you should
19 include it, only because of access. People need access to Greendell. I didn't realize they
20 were going to go do this incredible addition. I'm hoping that the phasing—first of all, the
21 School District has to be acutely aware of their needs. I had no idea that they would need
22 a school in the same timeframe that you do some of the other stuff. I would suspect that a
23 new middle school or a new high school would be the very last thing they would do.
24 They'd probably do the ...

25 Ms. Hill: They'd probably do their offices before they'd do that. They would probably
26 do Greendell because there's need there. They could move the adult school.

27 Commissioner Moss: The phasing will happen through osmosis. It'll happen because
28 there are certain things that are higher priority to the School District and to us. Even with
29 all that prioritization, it's going to still be a huge cost. It'll be interesting to see what we
30 can do to get that. On the far right, the housing, there is far less pressure on height limit
31 and size pointing out towards San Antonio. If you made that a four-story building,
32 nobody would complain. If you made the back ones four-story, that are butted against
33 housing, that may be an issue. It's just for three houses on that side. The other side is
34 apartment buildings all facing into each other. There's nobody looking out that direction.

1 Nobody's looking out that direction the way the apartment buildings are set. You have
2 more flexibility with that.

3 Ms. Hill: Thank you for the input. We will remember that. As we've done this and
4 we've had conversations with the staff, we anticipate some of those same questions and
5 concerns.

6 Commissioner Moss: Anything you can put on roofs would be greatly appreciated
7 because then you'd have more room.

8 Chair McDougall: Do I dare ask if anybody has any burning issues based on the
9 conversation we've had? If not, I'd like to close by thanking you, hoping you get well
10 enough to be there on Thursday.

11 Ms. Hill: I'll be there on Thursday.

12 Chair McDougall: In terms of people asking about participation, having been to these
13 meetings, your success in getting participation is really good, considering we've done
14 outreach and the only people who showed up got there by accident. The fact that you had
15 250 and then—you might say why less in the second one. I hope you have really good
16 attendance at the Thursday meeting. I want to thank Commissioner Moss for his
17 outreach on that. On your final slide, it talked about the whole plan, the basis, and a list
18 of items on basis. I don't think there's any question that you've taken some GSI things
19 into account, but it would be interesting on your list of things. GSI sort of applies to all
20 of those, but it might be interesting to have another bullet that says the GSI. You've got a
21 great opportunity with all the space and the rooftops to do that. The concern about
22 outreach, sometimes in Palo Alto we're at risk of the vocal minority being the ones that
23 dictate what happens. The list of different projects and programs says that you've at least
24 touched the majority of the ones available. You reached out to the existing tenants.
25 When you said you were not talking to groups, I was going to correct you and say, "I
26 believe you are talking to at least the tenants," which is a legitimate interest group. I
27 appreciate that. Everybody's made the right comments. I look forward to seeing you on
28 Thursday. I hope the rest of us come and bring our friends.

29 Ms. Hill: Please do. It should be fun.

30 Chair McDougall: That would be my comment. Let's not let her have all the fun. Let's
31 go have some fun with her. She brings blocks and everything else to play with. Kristen,
32 do you want to make any comments to wrap that up?

33 Ms. O'Kane: It's been an interesting process. I've been really pleased with how it's
34 going. Sometimes, it's a whirlwind, where I think, "Oh, my gosh, this is happening so

1 quickly." As Bobbie shared in their first presentation, they did the Katrina recovery plan
2 in like nine months. If they can do that in nine months, we can do this.

3 Commissioner Moss: I was going to make that comment. The fact that you promised us
4 a plan by the end of the year is just mindboggling. It's moving. A lot of people have
5 been working on this or talking about this for decades.

6 Ms. Hill: The efficiency is having everybody in the room doing it instead of a lot of
7 subcommittees. We've learned that over the years.

8 **6. Aspen Institute Palo Alto Dialogue on Libraries and Community Services**

9 Chair McDougall: The next item on the agenda, I get the privilege of introducing
10 Monique to speak about the Aspen technology work that went on. It was a dialog about
11 libraries and Community Services. The outcome was very good. I appreciate Monique
12 being here to talk about it.

13 Monique le Conge Ziesenhenné: Thank you. I'm Monique Ziesenhenné, Director of
14 Library and Community Services. At the time that I was appointed to this role, Jim
15 Keene tasked me with looking for ways that Community Services and Library could
16 work more efficiently together, collaborate on more of our work without returning to the
17 time when libraries were part of Community Services, keeping the two departments
18 separate but thinking about the strategies or needs around having the staff work more
19 closely together. As it turned out, about a week later the State Library had this grant
20 possibility from the Aspen Institute, which we applied for. We were one of three
21 libraries in the state to receive it. Before I applied, I talked to the State Librarian and
22 Amy Garmer at Aspen and said, "I don't want it just to be the Library. Here's what's
23 going on in Palo Alto. Can this work?" It was a new experiment for them as well. The
24 way the Aspen Dialogues work. You're awarded the grant, and then they go away and do
25 their own research on what's going on in your community, what might be happening with
26 libraries, with community wellness, with health, with other issues. They get the
27 leadership from both Library and Community Services together to make
28 recommendations on who might be an advisory group, sort of an advisory council for a
29 half-day meeting to help distill what those topics might be, what they might want to think
30 about both before the actual Dialogue day and into the future. Don was nice enough to
31 represent the PRC along with many other community members. We had a group of about
32 20 people to give Aspen and the staff that feedback. From there, we looked at other
33 community leaders who might contribute to the Dialogue, and Aspen made some
34 recommendations based on what they had learned. Could we have perhaps some more
35 health representation or more representation for older adults, things like that, to create
36 some balance, education, college representation. It's a full day of a couple of speakers
37 introducing concepts and ideas and then the group talking about it altogether, breaking
38 into groups to discuss particular topics, and then making recommendations going

1 forward. I hope you all read the report. It's also been distributed to the Library
2 Commission and the City Council. It was an interesting day and productive from the
3 standpoint that it was hard for some of the participants to think about Community
4 Services in the same way that they thought about libraries. Maybe they had a better idea
5 of what libraries were. Not all the people were internal necessarily to the City. Even
6 though they were either working in the City or living in the City, they were maybe not as
7 involved with CSD as they might be with the Library. That had some effect on the
8 outcome as well. We did invite people from the School District. That was one of the
9 comments the Library Commission made. They said, "I noticed no one was representing
10 PAUSD." No one was available for that. It was during the transition of Don Austin
11 beginning with PAUSD. I just wanted to put it out that we did invite them to participate.
12 For the Library Commission, one of the things that Commissioner McDougall will be
13 happy about is the idea of platform. People, place, and platform as the assets that could
14 be leveraged. I would argue that it's not only libraries but also the strength for CSD in
15 the time that I've been involved with this department and thinking about the things that
16 we do together. They both have that element. Human capital being critical. The actual
17 infrastructure that we have available. Palo Alto, in my opinion, is quite amazing in terms
18 of the libraries and the parks and the recreational resources. It's unlike most places that
19 I've ever worked and certainly very few that I've ever visited. Again, that idea of the civil
20 society institutions being a platform for community improvement, community wellness,
21 and learning and leisure. I hope you have some questions for me. I'm here to answer
22 them.

23 Commissioner Moss: This is timely, right after the discussion of the Cubberley Master
24 Plan. Reading the report, it never occurred to me how much of a community center each
25 library is. All the libraries together are essentially an extension of the Cubberley
26 Community Center or the Cubberley Community Center is an extension of the libraries.
27 When I went to Mitchell Park Library recently, you have at least two rooms in the library
28 that are used for multipurpose. It's not just a place to get a book. It's not just a place to
29 get internet access. You do have these rooms. I'm not even talking about the community
30 rooms outside of the library, but inside the library. The fact that you have identified how
31 many different stakeholder groups use the library—it's not just people who are checking
32 out books. That was very beneficial in that report. If there's any way that at the entrance
33 of every library you could show all the things that are happening in the Library that have
34 nothing to do with checking out books, it would be an extremely valuable extension of
35 this study. It goes back to platform. You've got the place and the people, but what are all
36 the things that you can do there that people aren't aware of?

37 Ms. Ziesenhenn: It's a great comment. It's true of both departments. There is a lot
38 going on that—most people have their path, the thing that they use the City for. They're
39 in parks for hiking or they're in aquatics, or they come to the Library to pick up their
40 things. When somebody comes to volunteer at the Library, we give them a tour. They

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1 say, "I had no idea you had this." Usually, the volunteers are the superusers. You're
2 absolutely right. There's a couple of things that—we're thinking about using CSD's
3 facility rentals to highlight what rooms are available and make reservations for Library
4 rooms. In the past we have offered programs that were a teaser for the CSD programs.
5 We would bring the yoga instructor to the Library, do the one-off freebie, but have
6 somebody there to sign them up for the class, not that there's ever space in anybody's
7 classes because they're all so popular. At the same time, just to create an awareness of
8 those kinds of things. Looking at who else we can partner with as a third party for both
9 departments to either help offer paid classes or free to create greater awareness.

10 Commissioner Moss: You have the Enjoy! catalog, which shows classes, courses, adult
11 ed, events. If you had events that were in the Library and, just like you said, they're
12 teasers for the rest of the programs in the Enjoy! catalog, then you could use them
13 together.

14 Chair McDougall: Anybody else have any comments or questions? Monique, you and I
15 have talked about this before. The challenge is when you talk about the Library, the
16 history is that it's the library structure. It's the building, the warehouse. People are
17 learning it's not just the structure; it's all the services that go with it, the programs that are
18 really part of it. When you talk about CSD, I think you think about the services, and you
19 don't think about the infrastructure. What you and I have talked about is the idea that the
20 Library is a platform on which you put stuff, and CSD is a platform on which you put
21 stuff. The opportunity for Palo Alto is to add one and one and make an even bigger
22 platform out of the whole thing. That really is the ambition. It has to be one big platform
23 that has all these services. That doesn't mean they have to be one organization. Do you
24 think we're moving in that direction successfully or at least thinking about it? Five years
25 ago, in order to get on the Library Commission, I said I didn't think the Library was
26 anything about books. They were about bicycle repair stations.

27 Ms. Zieshenne: It's why we have the Walk and Roll bike maps to the libraries. One of
28 the things that we've done as the manager groups, the two sets of managers, is meet and
29 talk about who are our community partners, who do we share in common. I may have
30 mentioned this to you. We mapped who we are all partnering with, whether you were in
31 the theatre or Art Center or recreation or Library. We went through and had the different
32 names, whether it was Avenidas or YMCA, and a different color coding for each
33 division. Some had like eight circles around them because different divisions were all
34 partnering with the YMCA, but none of us knew the others were doing it. It was really
35 interesting to us to see how many community partners we're already working with.
36 Thinking about that platform, how can we leverage that better? We are working towards
37 a fuller report of who we're working with right now and also thinking about how we can,
38 given that there are challenges—we never have enough staff; we never have enough



1 money—work with them most effectively and leverage everyone to do a little bit more or
2 a lot more.

3 Chair McDougall: If we could figure out how to have an integrated platform and the
4 Library has things on it and CSD has things on it and then X, Y, and Z, the partners—
5 you're doing the right thing by exploring the partnerships. You and I have talked about
6 that before as partnerships.

7 Vice Chair Greenfield: Thank you for sharing this Dialogue. It is interesting to try to
8 pursue the collaboration between the Library and CSD. As you just mentioned, the staff
9 limitations and the workload are a big challenge. I look at this as trying to establish
10 synergies between Library and CSD. A couple of things come to mind. One is the
11 Enjoy! catalog, which was mentioned, but that seems like an opportunity to advertise
12 resources of the Library more broadly to the group that's looking more directly at
13 recreation. It could be used to have some full-page ads to list the resources in the Library
14 and Community Services that might not be explicitly listed as classes in the Enjoy!
15 catalog. Something else that came to mind is Library technology was emphasized.
16 Understanding how the technology acumen could be used within Community Services, a
17 couple of things specifically are the Foothills Park Interpretive Center is in great need of
18 a facelift and perhaps some of the Library staff could be used in a cross-pollination to
19 come up with some ideas on how to implement something a little more 21st century.

20 Ms. Ziesenhenne: That's a great idea.

21 Vice Chair Greenfield: I know the Junior Museum plans are well underway, but there
22 may be some sort of branching that could be useful there as well.

23 Commissioner Moss: Commissioner Greenfield mentioned Foothills. There's also the
24 Palo Alto Historical Society. They really don't have a home. They have a home in
25 Cubberley, but they really should be part of the Library in some way or at least ...

26 Ms. Ziesenhenne: They are.

27 Commissioner Moss: I don't know where. Anyway, if there was some way to enhance
28 their presence.

29 Ms. Ziesenhenne: I can give you a little bit of the history of that. They were co-located
30 in the Main Library before Main Library was renovated and became Rinconada. The
31 Palo Alto Historical Association maintains the Guy Miller Archives, which are City-
32 owned archives. When we had to move out of Main Library, I found them space at
33 Cubberley, which was great, so we got Real Estate to give them a room at a very
34 reasonable rate. The intention was actually for those documents, which many of them are
35 historical in nature and need to be stored in an appropriate temperature with the right kind

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1 of light, to be in a room at the Roth Building when it is converted to a museum. They
2 will be near City Hall, more accessible to Library and other things. They are still the key
3 resource digitally for a lot of local information. We work with them to digitize
4 photographs, documents, and resources and make them available. They are available
5 through the Library catalog and their own catalog. We continue to work with them on
6 that project because there is a lot of information available. Part of the Library Impact Fee
7 is earmarked. Because this collection did reside in the Library at one time, moving it to
8 the Roth Building can expand access and meets the criteria. While it's not in a Library
9 building at the moment, it does get Library support. When genealogists contact the
10 Library, we go to PAHA to look for obituaries and other databases. There's a lot of
11 actual interaction with the Library staff because we get a lot of those calls from all over
12 the world. All roads lead to Palo Alto we've decided.

13 Chair McDougall: There is a white board in the Main Library that says, "here's the
14 cooking class, here's the Chinese language class." There's a whole list of classes.

15 Ms. Ziesenhenne: They have the electronic boards as well. The whiteboards have
16 worked out better.

17 Chair McDougall: It jumps right at you.

18 Ms. Ziesenhenne: You don't have to stand there and wait for things to flip by.

19 Chair McDougall: I don't see any other questions. I would encourage everybody, if they
20 didn't really study the report relative to the future of what CSD and the Library can do
21 together in Palo Alto, this whole idea of integrating platform and partnerships is really
22 important. I would encourage you to continue the Dialogue. Maybe we should have a
23 joint session with the Library Commission to have some of these conversations as well.

24 Ms. Ziesenhenne: That's a great idea. I'll be happy to coordinate dates. The LAC meets
25 less frequently than you do. We'll poll you for some available dates. How about that?

26 Chair McDougall: We'd like to invite them on a night when we have pickleball on the
27 agenda or something like that.

28 Ms. Ziesenhenne: If you go back and read or you take a look at this in the interest of
29 community engagement, please feel free to send me any thoughts that come or if you
30 think of something we can do. We do have Library activities in Enjoy!, but the idea of
31 highlighting some of the collections and things like that and maybe more than just the
32 basic programming would be an interesting tool. Thank you for that.

33 Chair McDougall: Although we're called Parks and Recreation, maybe we ought to be
34 called Parks and Community Services to reinforce the fact that when we put together

1 agendas and questions and topics, we need to be supporting the Community Services part
2 of what Kristen's team does. Monique, thank you. Thank you for attending all our
3 meetings and persevering with us.

4 Ms. Ziesenhenne: It's great.

5 **7. Other Ad Hoc Committee and Liaison Updates**

6 Chair McDougall: The next item is whether there have been any other ad hoc committee
7 meetings or topics that anybody wants to talk about.

8 Vice Chair Greenfield: One brief announcement. The Mayor's planting hosted by
9 Canopy at Cubberley will be 5:15 on Thursday—at Mitchell Park at 5:15 this Thursday.
10 Canopy will be planting a Mayor's tree for Mayor Filseth. Everyone's invited to attend
11 before they head to the Cubberley Co-Design meeting.

12 Commissioner Moss: I wanted to make sure that the Renzel pond effort is part of the
13 Baylands Comprehensive Plan and that we will have another opportunity to add more to
14 it now that it's finished. Maybe we could have another meeting of the comprehensive
15 plan subcommittee or steering group.

16 Ms. O'Kane: I'll pass that along to Daren.

17 Commissioner Moss: As far as open space, there was some discussion about bald eagles
18 showing up at Arastradero Preserve. Conversations with the Rangers confirmed that we
19 do have some. I was a little concerned that we might have traffic from birders, but they
20 assure us that it's not a problem right now. Just to know that we have them in our City is
21 pretty amazing. The Magical Bridge Playground is still drawing huge crowds. I've never
22 seen it so crowded as yesterday, Monday. I did have an opportunity to meet with the co-
23 founder of the Magical Bridge. When we talk about a tentative agenda for next meeting,
24 I'd like to bring up the possibility of having them come. Just like the Library, the
25 Magical Bridge can be enhanced and expanded in our City.

26 **VI. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 26, 2019 MEETING**

27 Chair McDougall: Let's move to the next topic of next agendas. I'll put down Magical
28 Bridge as a potential topic. Are there any other burning issues?

29 Commissioner Cribbs: Pickleball. It doesn't have to be a whole agenda item, but a report
30 about the outreach to the different groups and where we are with that and the construction
31 coming up. The same thing with the restrooms in the parks and the community outreach
32 that's being done to Daren's choice of parks. Can I add something for the agenda too?

33 Chair McDougall: Yes.

1 Commissioner Cribbs: Were we going to do a CIP 101 update about what money is
2 coming up?

3 Chair McDougall: Put CIP on the agenda. We should have it at the next meeting.

4 Ms. O'Kane: It's been on the last two meetings, but it keeps getting bumped for other
5 things.

6 Commissioner Cribbs: Fund development as we're talking about potential Cubberley
7 funding on down the line. Maybe we should have a discussion again about fund
8 development.

9 Vice Chair Greenfield: Maybe that's a good retreat topic. There was mention of the
10 Urban Forest Master Plan as well.

11 Ms. O'Kane: You had requested, Commissioner Moss, an update on the Renzel Wetland.

12 Chair McDougall: If we looked at it as an update on the Baylands Comprehensive Plan
13 or Byxbee. I think there's an open question of trucks on top of Byxbee. I think we were
14 told that would be done by the end of October.

15 Commissioner Moss: I'm not sure if this is an agenda item or for retreat. The 10.5 acres
16 has been totally used for the San Francisquito Creek project, which is now done. When I
17 rode by there today, it's empty of equipment for the first time in nine years. It's a flat,
18 mud field. This year we should be addressing that 10.5 acres. Do you want to have that
19 as a PRC retreat issue or something to come ...

20 Chair McDougall: Let's put all this stuff on the list, and then we'll figure out which of the
21 ones that we ...

22 Commissioner Moss: I have about eight items for the PRC retreat agenda. Do you want
23 to deal with those now? Do you want me to list them now or list them in a minute? Are
24 we talking about both agendas right now?

25 Chair McDougall: We're combining it and sorting out which would be ... Why don't
26 you go ahead and list them?

27 Commissioner Moss: The North Ventura comprehensive plan, it says March 2020, but
28 we have to start working on that this year. Is Fry's ...

29 Ms. O'Kane: It's already underway. Commissioner Reckdahl is the liaison to that group.

30 Commissioner Moss: Can we have an update on that either in the PRC retreat or as an
31 agenda item? That's huge.

1 Vice Chair Greenfield: I think that could be addressed in the liaison and ad hoc updates.

2 Commissioner Moss: We talked about the Boardwalk. When will we have an opening
3 for the Boardwalk?

4 Ms. O'Kane: We are looking at dates. We don't have the date yet, but we'll let the ...

5 Commissioner Moss: It won't be the 30th of this month. That's when you're done with
6 the construction. Right?

7 Ms. O'Kane: Daren's planning that, so I don't know what dates he's considering. We'll
8 let you know as soon as we have it.

9 Commissioner Moss: Another area that we should probably look at is—the question is
10 when can we deal with Buckeye Creek. It's a very expensive thing. In the PRC retreat,
11 do we spend any more time on it this calendar year or do we have to shove it off to next
12 year?

13 Vice Chair Greenfield: We have a lot of priorities to weigh as a Commission. We would
14 do well to use the Comprehensive Plan as a guiding document to inform our actions and
15 prioritize our actions. To that end, we need to take into consideration staff and financial
16 resources that are available. We need to look realistically at what we can hope to
17 accomplish this year as part of the retreat. Would it be easier for you to email a list of
18 items to consider for the retreat to Kristen? She can share it with Don and me.

19 Ms. O'Kane: For Buckeye Creek, there was an informational item that went to Council
20 that described our current plan. I can send you that link if you want to look at it. I don't
21 think anything will have changed since then.

22 Chair McDougall: I would invite any other Commissioners to do exactly the same thing,
23 particularly for the retreat. Give us any input, send it directly to Kristen.

24 Vice Chair Greenfield: Leading up to the retreat, it would be good for all Commissioners
25 to look at the existing ad hoc committees and liaison roles as we look to assign the roles
26 for the coming year. We need to consider the ad hoc committees. Does it make sense to
27 keep the committees we have? Are there new committees we should be adding such as
28 the GSI? Are there any committees that we can merge to increase efficiency? These are
29 all questions to consider leading up to the meeting. Feel free to forward any direct input
30 that you think would be useful to Kristen before the meeting. Otherwise, we can dig into
31 it at the retreat.

32 Ms. O'Kane: It's in the minutes from the retreat, but we can send that out so everyone has
33 the liaison and ad hoc assignments.

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1 Chair McDougall: If we send that out, maybe we could send it out in the format of
2 questions to consider before you show up.

3 Vice Chair Greenfield: A friendly reminder for everybody to get their lunch order in so
4 staff resources don't need to remind us.

5 Chair McDougall: Another friendly reminder to show up at Cubberley on Thursday
6 night.

7 **VII. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

8 None

9 **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

10 Meeting adjourned on motion by Vice Chair Greenfield and second by Commissioner
11 Cribbs at 9:52 p.m.

