

**THE CITY OF COSTA MESA
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

APRIL 23, 2015

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Costa Mesa, California met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 26, 2015 in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, California.

- 1. Call to Order: Chairman Pederson**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance: Commissioner Harper**
- 3. Roll Call**

Commissioners Present: Chair: Chairman Pederson
 Vice Chair: Eckles
 Commissioner de Arakal
 Commissioner Harper
 Commissioner Graham

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Tamara Leatourneau, Assistant Chief Executive Officer
 Bruce A. Hartley, Maintenance Services Manager
 Travis Karlen, Recreation Manager
 Bartazar Mejia, Parks Project Manager
 Kristina Roche, PRC Secretary

- 4. Approval of the Minutes of the March 26, 2015 Meeting of the PRC.**
MOTION made by Commissioner de Arakal to approve the April 23 minutes, seconded by Vice Chair Eckles; MOTION carried 5-0.

5. Public Comments

1. Rocky Evans – Costa Mesa Resident

Rocky Evans asks Commission to increase hours at the Volcom Skate Park and decrease the enforcement of pads and protective equipment.

6. Consent Calendar

No Items.

7. Public Hearing

No items.

8. Old Business

No Items.

9. New Business

a. **Tree Removal Request – 3081 Klondike Ave** **Staff Recommendation: Deny**

Bruce Hartley presents report.

Commissioner de Arakal asks Bruce Hartley how deep we place the root barriers. Bruce says typically 18 inches.

Chair Pederson opens it for public comment.

Public Comment:

1. Jessica Harris – Costa Mesa Resident

Jessica Harris speaks in favor of denying the tree removal request.

2. Mark Harris – Costa Mesa Resident

Mark Harris speaks in favor of denying the tree removal request.

3. Kim DeBroux – Costa Mesa Resident

Kim DeBroux speaks in favor of denying the tree removal request.

4. Gabriella Oseguera – Costa Mesa Resident

Gabriella Oseguera lives at 3081 Klondike Avenue. Gabriella explains that there has been property damage. She explains that the root barriers do not go deep enough to protect her home from the roots. She explains that she has paid for the trees to be removed in the past and she will pay for these trees to be removed now. She explains that there is going to be future damage and she wants to protect her house from that damage. She explains that the Commission needs to do what is right and the right thing to do is to the trees out to protect her home. She says she can guarantee in five to ten years there will be damage to her pool and she does not want that to happen and she does not want to sue the City.

Chairman Pederson asks the Commissioners if they have any questions for Gabriella Oseguera.

Commissioner de Arakal asks when the pictures were taken that she has presented. Gabriella says that the pictures were taken over a year ago when they were digging for their pool. Commissioner de Arakal asks if they were taken after she was here before. Gabriella says no, it was before. Commissioner de Arakal asks if the Commission has seen the pictures before and Gabriella says yes.

5. George Berg – Costa Mesa Resident

George Berg speaks in favor of denying the tree removal request.

6. Kelly Waterman - Costa Mesa Resident

Kelly Waterman speaks in favor of removing the tree.

7. Scott Waterman – Costa Mesa Resident

Scott Waterman speaks in favor of removing the tree.

8. Johnny – Costa Mesa Resident

Johnny speaks in favor of removing the tree.

9. David Brown – Costa Mesa Resident

David Brown speaks in favor of removing the tree.

Chair Pederson asks if Commissioners have questions or comments.

Commissioner Graham explains that we have an obligation to the community to keep the trees because they are not doing damage and they are in the parkway and if the trees were moved it would be bare. Commissioner Graham says he will not be in favor of removing the tree.

Commissioner de Arakal says that if there were evidence that these trees were causing damage he would have no problem taking the trees out but there is no evidence at this time so he cannot be in favor of taking out the trees. He says he understands there is potential for future damage and liability but he concurs with Commissioner Graham comments about there being an obligation to the community to keep the trees unless there is damage being done to the property and there is no evidence at this time.

Vice Chair Eckles says that this is tough to put neighbor against neighbor and someone's home versus another one. He says he does not see damage right now and we cannot tell what the future holds and what kind of damage is or is not going to happen in the future. He explains that he trusts staff and the residents to medicate future damage so he cannot support the removal of the tree.

Commissioner Harper says if there is evidence of property damage then he has no problem taking the tree out and he normally is against the commission and if someone wants the tree removed in front of their house he does not see an issue with removing it but in this case, there is no evidence of damage and it is in the back of the house and there is so much support to keep the tree. He cannot support the removal of the tree either.

Chair Pederson explains that the Commission takes tree removals very seriously and we cannot guarantee that there will be future damage and this tree removal does not qualify to be removed and it is the residents right to come back in a year and try to get the tree removed again.

MOTION made by Chair Pederson to deny the tree removal request, seconded by Commissioner Harper.

MOTION Carries 5-0

b. Tree Removal Request – 883 Prospect Place Staff Recommendation: Deny

Bruce Hartley presents report

Commissioner de Arakal asks Bruce Hartley if the root barriers go deeper due to the trees growing on a slope. Bruce says the root barriers go same depth - 12-18 feet deep.

Commissioner Harper says that he hears these trees grow up to 120 feet but normally mature at 60 feet and asks if that is correct. Bruce says the trees normally grow up to 80 feet and normally they grow very quickly and once they begin reaching maturity they slow down but could grow to 80 feet.

Chair Pederson asks for the applicant to come up to the podium and speak on the item.

Kelly Waterman – 883 Prospect Place

Kelly Waterman says the roots were exposed after the first set of barriers went in and believes we should have dug because throughout the slides that she had brought she believes it is very apparent that the roots from S13 and S9 were the ones that caused the huge cracks in the wall. As of right now, it is going to cost about 4,800 dollars to fix those walls. She explains that her and her husband are redoing their backyard and the contractors that come out say in the very beginning that those trees are going to be a problem. She explains that she works in her office all day and her son has inhalers that he uses every day and night due to the amount of dust and pollen from the trees. She is unable to open his window to air out his room because of all the dust and pollen from the trees. She says that when she's sitting in her office she cannot open her window because she will start sneezing as well but she does not have an extreme allergy like her kids do. She explains her other concern is the work that is being done to her backyard, there are a lot of electric systems and sprinklers that are going directly by the wall area by the trees. She said the S13 and the S9 are causing damage and she does not want to have to do repairs every couple of years after they are putting money into the backyard. She explains the damage of cutting the roots and how it may hurt the tree and make the tree instable and gave examples of two different trees that are the same species falling over due to roots being cut. Explains her two main points of wanting to get the trees removed: 1. The pollen is ridiculous and 2. Her husband has worked hard to renovate the backyard and she does not want to have to do repairs every couple of years due to these trees. She believes her request is reasonable.

Chairman Pederson asks Commissioners if they have questions for the applicant.

Commissioner Eckles asks which trees are causing the most damage. Kelly says the S13 and the S9 are the ones causing the root damage.

Commissioner de Arakal asks when the applicant is planning on starting the renovation of the backyard. Kelly says it has already begun and they already have a contractor but it is on hold due to this tree request. Commissioner de Arakal asks what they are planning on having done specifically. Kelly says they are hard-scaping all the way to the wall and a putting a raised planter next to the wall with lighting. Commissioner de Arakal

asks if they are going to run power underground to light the area. Kelly said that is a better question to ask her husband because he knows more details. Commissioner de Arakal asks if they have trenched at all on their side of the property. Kelly said they have not dug at all yet because they wanted to wait to see what was going to happen with the trees because the contractor said the trees were going to be a problem. Commissioner Harper asks if the contractor is waiting to see what the Commission is going to do before he takes on the job. Kelly said the contractor is going to do the job regardless but they want to wait to see what happens with the trees and not have to worry about checking for repairs all the time.

Commissioner de Arakal asks Bruce Hartley to go to a picture on her presentation one more time to see what tree exactly is in the picture and when these pictures were taken. Kelly said the pictures were taken two weeks prior to the meeting. Commissioner de Arakal asks to look through the slides one more time to get a good idea of which tree is which.

Chair Pederson opens it for Public Comment.

Public Comment:

1. Scott Waterman – Costa Mesa Resident

Scott Waterman talks in favor of removing the tree. He says the roots are damaging their wall and there is a pollen issue and their son has a serious allergy to the pollen.

Commissioner de Arakal asks about the crack in the wall being from S9 and the picture taken from the applicant side of the property that also shows the crack in the wall and asks when these pictures were taken. Scott Waterman says it was taken in the last couple of weeks. Bruce Hartley states that the crack in the picture was from the tree S14 which has already been removed.

2. Mark Harris – Costa Mesa Resident

Mark Harris speaks in favor of denying the tree removal request.

3. Jessica Harris – Costa Mesa Resident

Jessica Harris speaks in favor of denying the tree removal request.

4. Kim DeBroux – Costa Mesa Resident

Kim DeBroux speaks in favor of denying the tree removal request.

5. George Berg – Costa Mesa Resident

George Berg speaks in favor of denying the tree removal request.

6. Gabriella Oseguera – Costa Mesa Resident

Gabriella Oseguera speaks in favor of removing the tree.

7. Johnny – Costa Mesa Resident

Johnny speaks in favor of removing the tree.

8. David Brown – Costa Mesa Resident

David Brown speaks in favor of removing the tree.

Chair Pederson closes Public Comment and opens it for Commissioner comments and/or questions.

Commissioner Harper asks Bruce Hartley if the trenches were dug after the report or was the report already done. Bruce says it all happened in the same week so he was unable to correlate roots and cracks to the report due to the timing of it all.

Commissioner Harper asks if he has seen the trenches and where the roots are and the cracks are since then. Bruce says he has and his opinion on the S9 tree has changed since he had seen the trenches and the cracks. He explains that there cannot be any more root pruning and the trenching showed more of that. Commissioner Harper asks if those roots associated with S11 and S13 or just with S9. Bruce said the S9 damage is more obvious but the S13 has roots that they cannot cut that can be causing damage.

Chair Pederson suggests to go on with the work and once it has all been dug up the applicants can come back and have a lot more evidence and proof that these trees are causing damage and staff can have the ability to make the decision to remove the trees.

Commissioner de Arakal wants clarification of the category two accelerated removal. Says the removal has two main elements: 1. the tree is a designated problem tree species or 2. The tree could qualify if it impacts surrounding public or private property improvements or significant or potential significant in the future. Says he sees potential for these trees to qualify as accelerated tree removals but he is not ready to pull the trigger on that. Explains he would love to see more trenching on the applicants side of the property by the wall base to see if those roots are coming in. Suggests to continue this to the May meeting and trench more and bring it back to the Commission and if the damage to the wall can correlate to the roots he has no problem taking the trees out.

Commissioner Harper agrees with Chair Pederson and wants to give staff the ok to make the decision instead of continuing it for the May meeting.

Commissioner Graham agrees with putting it off for the next month.

Commissioner de Arakal does not necessarily disagree with giving staff the direction to take a better look at the tree and the roots and give staff the ability to take the trees out if there is damage but if staff is unsure and does not do it then he wants to give the Watermans the ability to come back in the May meeting and let the Commission decide.

Chair Pederson asks for the Waterman's to come back to the podium,

Chair Pederson asks if the Watermans are willing to open the trench on their side so the commission and staff have more knowledge and evidence to the damage that may be occurring on the private property side. Mr. Waterman says he thinks it is a good idea but they will not be trenching by the tree that is on the corner; Commissioner de Arakal asks

what is next to the tree on the corner, Mr. Waterman says it is a flat planter. Commissioner de Arakal said that if he goes in and digs around and the roots are visible then that would be enough for him to make it for the accelerated tree removal.

Vice Chair Eckles says he agrees with the other commissioners and says we need to dig deeper and support the idea of trenching more. He said he is not looking at this tree removal as a pollen issue but strictly as a property damage issue.

MOTION made by Commissioner de Arakal to deny the tree removal request with the direction that the Applicant excavates on the private property side of the wall adjacent to trees S-9, S-11 and S-13 to allow staff to determine if there is any root intrusion; authorizing the Director of Public Services to remove the trees as a Category 2 Removal; or return to the PRC in May as a Category 3 removal request. Seconded by Commissioner Harper. Motion Carried 5-0

c. Costa Mesa Skate Park Report

Staff Recommendation: Receive and file report

Travis Karlen Presents report.

Lt. Vic Bakila presents his report on the Costa Mesa Skate Park.

Chair Pederson opens it up for Commissioner questions or comments.

Commissioner Graham asks Lt. Bakila what brings skaters from other cities to our skate park. Lt. Bakila says it is mainly because of the hours of operation and we do not charge the skaters to come in. Commissioner Graham asked if it is also because we are loose with the equipment rules. Lt. Bakila says no, other cities are very loose with their equipment rules and the majority of the violations that are given out are for lack of equipment.

Commissioner de Arakal said that six months ago when he brought this forward to the Commission it was because there were some significant incidents going on between the skaters and the park rangers and he was concerned. He is pleased to see that things that improved. Lt. Bakila said that they have more park rangers now. There is one full time ranger, one part time ranger and one that is coming back from Iraq who is going to be starting soon as well. Commissioner de Arakal said he does not have any desire to increase the hours because there are still issues in the parking lot that deal with drug use or drug sale. He would not have any problem extending the skate hours if the skating community policed themselves and followed all of the rules. If we extended the hours we would need the electronic locks to lock the park at a certain time or else we would have send someone out there to lock the park. Commissioner de Arakal asked if Ann was still out at the skate park often; Lt. Bakilla said Ann is still the tyrant of the skate park; he also said that he is happy the ranger is coming back from Iraq and will be looking to recognize her at a meeting when she is back.

Vice-Chair Eckles congratulated Travis Karlen and Lt. Bakilla on the improvements at the Skate Park. Vice Chair Eckles asked Lt. Bakilla what his ideas are to improve the skate park even more. Lt. Bakilla said that he was a Recreation Leader for the City of Irvine from the time he was 15 years old to 24 years old and Irvine was one of the first cities around here to have a Skate Park and the city staffed it with a Rec Leader and

everyone who wanted to participate in the skate park had to register and pay three dollars and the three dollars was enough of a barrier to keep residents from other cities out of the skate park. Vice Chair Eckles asked if people are waiting outside the Skate Park before 9am for it to open and at the end of the night is it hard to get them out of the park. Travis Karlen said he has received reports from ambassadors which say some nights it is hard to get the skaters out of the park and some nights it takes until 9:30pm to get the skaters out of the park. Vice Chair Eckles said 9a-9pm is a good time period at this point.

Chair Pederson said the problems are going down with the ambassador program and with the Rangers. The skaters for the most part are following the rules and having fun.

Chair Pederson opens it for Public Comment.

1. Rocky Evans – Costa Mesa Resident

Rocky Evans says he is happy with what he heard from the report. He said the skate park is crowded and you have to wait a long time to take a run. He said that if the times were extended it would lighten the load and he would like to see more policing of the parking lot and not inside the park. He said there is no point in scaring kids out of the park that are skating.

Commissioner Graham asked Rocky Evans if we extend the hours would it be just for a few people or are there a lot of people that would skate before work like the surfers do. Rocky said he would be an early morning skater. He said that he has been to the Skate Park in Oceanside at 6:30am and there have been 5-8 people and come 7am there are 10-15 people. He thinks more people would take advantage of the later hours and people would stay longer. He said at 9pm when it is closing there are easily 50 people still there and wanting skate and people would stay longer.

2. Mark – Costa Mesa Resident

Mark says people would stay later at night if the park hours were extended and sometimes the park is opened earlier in the morning and people are there. He said it is very crowded on the weekends. He mentioned Joey's camps and the success that comes from his camps brings even more people into the park. He asks if there is a possibility of extending the skate park to make it bigger or if we can make a new skate park. Commissioner de Arakal said that it is in the Capital Improvement Plan and something the City is looking at. Mark said he was happy and excited to hear that. Mark mentioned that if the park opened earlier, he would definitely be there before leaving for work. He asked if there was a way for him to stay in the loop for extending the skate park or creating a new one. Commissioner de Arakal told him to not get ahead of himself and it is in the Capital Improvement Plan but there is a whole process it has to go through and it is a ways away; he also tells him to go to the City website and sign up to get notices of agendas so he can be present when skate park topics are being discussed.

Chair Pederson closed Public Comment.

Chair Pederson said that we are making process right where we are at and he is not ready to extend the hours although he is leaning towards opening it earlier in the

morning but is not sure what that will take for staff to open it earlier but he does not think the morning would cause trouble, later may cause more trouble but he is not ready right now to pull the trigger but he would like to have some communication with staff and have staff talk to each other. Chair Pederson said he would like to see more programs at the park and another skate park would be a great addition.

Commissioner Harper asked Lt. Bakilla if most of the citations are given in the afternoon and evening. Lt. Bakilla said the majority of equipment violations are given in the afternoon but drug and alcohol violations are given at night in the parking lot. Commissioner Harper asked what the logic is for 9am open time instead of 7am. Bruce Hartley said that as staff we have an obligation to inspect the park and document. Staff begins working at 630am but there are lots of gates to be open and inspections to be made. The 9am opening time gives staff time to clean the Skate Park and make sure everything is ok before opening the park. He said staff could do it earlier but we would have to rearrange the way staff does things.

Chair Pederson said he is not against opening it earlier but he is not ready to pull the trigger.

MOTION made by Commissioner de Arakal to receive and file report. Seconded by Chair Pederson. Motion carried 5-0.

**d. Proposed Drainage Easement at Fairview Park
Staff Recommendation: Approve Option 2**

Bartazar Mejia presents report.

Commissioner de Arakal asked what the depth of the pipe would be and the distance it would extend into Fairview Park. Bart Mejia said the depth of the pipe is 4-5 foot range and the request is 25 feet into Fairview Park.

Chair Pederson asked for Option 2 to happen is there any problem with any of the local enforcement groups due to the digging into Fairview Park. Bart Mejia said yes, there are environmental impacts as a result to these improvements and we are making the developer responsible for compliance with all of the environmental requirements. It is required to coordinate closely with the regulatory agencies and also to bring Native American monitors whenever we do excavation at the site.

Commissioner de Arakal asked how deep the excavation would be into Fairview Park in order to get the pipe 4-5 feet into the ground. Would we have to go deeper? Bart Mejia said he does not have the exact vertical profile of the storm drain system that the city has designed and that would determine how deep the excavation would go for the pipe. Commissioner de Arakal asks what was the environmental determination for the project proposal. Bart said the project is still going through the determination phase and the design has been completed and it is going to go through compliance.

Chair Pederson asks for applicant to come up and speak.

Peter Zender, Developer of the project.

The city has a design for a permanent drainage structure; getting an easement is the

first step of the process. The intention is when the city is complete with its design and has gone through the environmental processing then we will construct a lateral from our property and the easement covers the ability for this to happen. We will not construct anything in the park at all, it will all be done when the city is under construction.

Commission de Arakal asks when the city installs the new drainage system the developer will reimburse the city for the easement project. The city will actually do the work.

Chair Pederson asks if the project is going forward right now. What is happening to the water right now? Peter Zender said right now, the water is draining into Fairview Park and then it goes East down to the river and it creates drainage issues there. This structure will reverse this and will take the drainage to another direction. Right now the easement will still have the water draining into where it is now but the water will be maintained before it goes into the park.

Commissioner de Arakal asked if the easement will reduce the amount of water drained into the park. Bart Mejia said it will reduce the flow.

Chair Pederson opens Public Comment.

1. Kim Hendrix

Kim Hendrix said that although on the agenda it says there are two options there is only actually one because option one the storm water pumping would not be effective and it would cost the developer a lot of money and burden the developer. She thinks the city should be less concerned with helping the developer and more concerned with helping the residents. She said that the change is not as simple as a 500-11 would admit because the vernal marsh lays right on the same path; these prevent water shed. She said this does not follow the policy and she has a lot more to say.

Chair Pederson closes public comment.

Commissioner de Arakal asked where we are in the timeline for when this is all happening. Bart Mejia said the drainage issue at the south end of the park is a hot issue, the CIP has a request to complete the project and if City Council approves it then the construction could happen in the next fiscal year.

Commissioner de Arakal asks if Fish and Wild Life Services are aware of the significant drainage system we are planning to put in. Bart Mejia says that is correct and they have copies of the Cities Master Plan and Fairview Park Master Plan that describes the drainage system. Commission de Arakal asks if they have formed an opinion on the matter; Bart Mejia says they have not. Commissioner de Arakal says he cannot sit here and say yes to an easement and months later Fish and Wild Life say it is not ok to do that. Bart Mejia says they will have a detailed description of the proposal so they can provide proper input for any concerns they may have. Commissioner de Arakal is asking as a commission we make a decision that the easement is in line with the Fairview Park Master Plan. Bart Mejia says that is correct.

Vice Chair Eckles asks if Bart can go into more detail about the benefit of putting in the easement as well as the cost in comparison to the two options. Bart Mejia says the two options are feasible but the benefits of having the drainage system in option one is it treats the water before it drains into Fairview Park.

Chair Pederson asks if this has been brought to the Fairview Park Advisory Committee. Bart Mejia says we were unable to bring it to the committee due to the timeframe.

Commissioner de Arakal says we are so far ahead of ourselves and it feels a little advanced.

Chair Pederson asks Peter Zender to come back up to the podium. Peter Zender says this process has to go to the Planning Commission and then to City Council; so through this they are looking to see if it is consistent with the Fairview Park Master Plan. Says if we move through the Commission Level then Council can approve the easement and all the agreements that go along with it and then we will have an opportunity for the homeowners and the homeowner association to be in a situation where they do not have to come back and go through this process. The completion schedule is scheduled to

Commissioner Harper asks where the water goes not and when the homes are built where it would go then. Peter Zender said there were five apartments and when there was excess water it flows into the drainage ditch at the park or it goes to the north east corner of the property. The engineers have designed a system where it continues to go to the north east but it would get fed into the ground and percolate underground with the gravel and there will more systems set up for the water to percolate before running into the park which is what is happening now. Commissioner Harper clarified that nothing is actually being done at Fairview Park, it is only helping reduce the water and treating the water before it goes into Fairview Park.

Commissioner Graham asked in a light rain barely any or no water would drain into Fairview Park. Peter Zender that is correct. Commissioner Graham asked in a rain storm, Pacific Avenue drains into Fairview Park. Bart Mejia said that is correct.

Vice Chair Eckles said we are getting out of our realm, the only reason why this is here is to determine if the easement is consistent to the Fairview Park Master Plan.

Commissioner Graham said he is all for it.

Peter Zender said they are not doing anything privately, the city is involved in everything that is being done.

Chair Pederson said it is a good plan and very minimal impact on Fairview Park.

Commissioner de Arakal said he understands, once it goes through the entire process he may have to go with option one but for right now he is fine with it and it is consistent with the Fairview Master Plan

MOTION made by Commissioner de Arakal that the plan does not violate the existing Fairview Park Master Plan. Seconded by Commissioner Harper. Motion carried 5-0.

e. Review of Proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) For Fiscal Year 2015-2016 through 2021-2022

Staff Recommendation: Review and Provide Recommendation

Bartazar Mejia presents report.

Commissioner de Arakal suggests each Commissioner takes a turn making recommendations or comments about the CIP.

All commissioners agree.

Commissioner Graham speaks about Item number 50 which is \$250,000 that goes to improvements of Fairview Park for construction. He believes this money would be suffice for the park.

Commissioner de Arakal suggests that everything goes in that each of the Commissioners say.

Commissioner Harper asks how funds are allocated, how things get prioritizes, who decides these things and where the input comes from. Bart Mejia says the CEO and staff looks at how much money there is and last year's CIP establishes the priority for the next year. For this year we are looking at last year's CIP to make 2015-2016 but the CIP goes through 2022. Next year when we are looking at this again we will look at 2015-2016. Commissioner Harper asks CEO sits down with staff and gets public comment in some regard; how does that process work? Bart Mejia says there is a process that we go through, get public input and then it goes to City Council and when they approve it, it has a seven year plan which helps the process for the one year. Bart Mejia goes on to say if there is a project you believe needs to be higher priority and Council concurs then it will be. City Council is the one do adopt the budget. Commissioner Harper says the CEO suggests it and then Council accepts it. Bart Mejia says that is correct.

Chair Pederson says item number 25 and 27 being recommended for funding, especially Gisler, there is nothing out there. He believes that if they put things out there, money will come back to the City in rentals in use. He also wants to see improvements at Paularino Park. He likes the fact that bicycle racks are recommended on page 129. He would love to move all of the lighting things to be moved to this year because of all the problems that are occurring, especially at Estancia Park and Kaiser School.

Vice Chair Eckles says the various parks playground rubber resurfacement is something he wants to be looked at further and happen soon. He said he is happy to see the sports field improvement plan but with improvements at Jack Hammett the crowd will continue to grow so the bathroom problem needs to be fixed and the storage area. He said he will always push for more lighting. New restrooms at Canyon Park is necessary and he is very interested in looking further. He asked about the Fairview Development Center and what those numbers are for future fields. Bart Mejia said they are looking to create a master plan for the area for fields.

Commissioner de Arakal thanks all departments for putting this together and says it is nice to see there is a little money to spend. Commission de Arakal asks if Item 14 which is \$50,000 for Bus Bench Replacement is for the OCTA Bench Shelters. Bruce Hartley says OCTA does not provide any shelters so he believes this money is for the benches

the city provides. He concurs with the Chairman to bump the \$40,000 for the Paularino Park because it really needs to be replaced. He asked what the conditions of the liners at Tewinkle Park and what the urgency is. Bruce Hartley says the water leaks around the waterfalls and if the pumps get turned off to conserve energy then all of the water drains into the lowest lake and then overflows. If the liners would be fixed then the water would not drain to the lowest lake and not overflow and the waterfalls would not leak. The pumps would be able to get turned off. Commissioner de Arakal asks to recommend funding for item 30. Item 34 rehabilitation of parking lots at Jack Hammet, Tewinkle Park and Jordan Park. He said the west parking lot at Tewinkle Park is in need of rehabilitation; would money go to this? Bruce said yes. Item 43 which is Balearic Center Land Acquisition Services was not recommended; he would like to move it to the recommended column and ask Council to fund that. He is very happy to see Jack Hammet Improvement Plans be recommended for funding and agrees with Vice Chair Eckles that the bathroom needs to be improved. He said on page 126, Major Service Category for street maintenance he said he is bummed about Baker Street and Bear Street to Bristol being pushed to further years because that area needs rehabilitation. Bart Mejia said the streets are being repaired this year which is why it got pushed back to later years. Bruce Hartley said there was left over money for a project so that money is being used now for that part of street.

Commissioner Graham said Item 49 talks about the bluff stairs at Fairview Park and there is one set of stairs already and it is very popular; and if we can get the 50,000 dollars to design the stairs we are that much closer to getting the stairs built.

MOTION made by Vice Chair Eckles to accept the recommendations by the Commissioners. Seconded by Commissioner de Arakal. Motion carried 5-0.

f. Commissioner Liaison Appointments

Staff Recommendation: Appoint one liaison to City/NMUSD Committee and one to the Fairview Park Citizen's Advisory Committee

Travis Karlen presents report.

Chair Pederson asks the commission if anyone feels very strongly about either one of these positions. Vice Chair Eckles asked since the Fairview Park Citizen's Advisory Committee meetings have been postponed is there a need to appoint a commissioner tonight. Commissioner de Arakal says we should appoint someone in case something pops up. Commissioner Graham is a backup right now and Commissioner Eckles is on the committee now.

MOTION made by Graham to appoint Vice Chair Eckles to be the liaison to the Fairview Park Citizen's Advisory Committee and Commissioner Harper as back up liaison. Seconded by Chair Pederson. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner de Arakal says he is currently the liaison to the CITY/NMUSD Committee and would like to stay as the liaison. He says there are some really neat discussions and movements going on between the City and NMUSD which are working through the field issues and since he already has a working relationship with the district he would like to remain being the liaison.

MOTION made by Vice Chair Eckles to appoint Commissioner de Arakal to be the

liaison to City/NMUSD Committee, seconded by Harper. MOTION made by Commissioner de Arakal to appoint Chair Pederson as back up liaison. Seconded by Chair Pederson. Motions carried 5-0.

9. Park District Reports

Commissioner de Arakal presents report.

Raleigh Park - beaut

Tanager Park – Commissioner de Arakal wants to convert the vacant basketball part into a xeriscape area and would also like to create a picnic shade.

Civil Center Park – Commissioner de Arakal wants to create a multi-purpose trail or a sidewalk system connecting the eastern edge and coming out right where the bus shelter is and putting benches along the edges of the trail.

Jack Hammett Sports Complex – Commissioner de Arakal is happy that there is a recommendation of funding for putting in artificial turf in fields one and two. There also needs to be restroom and snack bar maintenance

Ketchum-Libolt Park – Commissioner de Arakal said it is deep park and can picture there being problems at night. He wants the railing on the gate to be repainted and switching out the trash receptacles.

Wilson Park – Commissioner de Arakal said there are a lot of transients in the park and illicit activity at the shelter and bathroom. Says this activity scares mom's away from the park. There needs to be something to make it so people can come back to the park.

TeWinkle Park and Sports Complex – The sunshades over the Angels Playground looked dirty or mildewed, said they need to be looked at. He wants to put temporary lights in the Northeast Park. Commissioner de Arakal asked Bruce Hartley how the fields are being watered. Bruce said all big parks are being watered by reclaimed water. He is excited to see there is funding being allocated to begin working on the Bark Park.

Commissioner de Arakal thanked staff.

Commissioner Harper asked about empty basketball court at Tanager Park. He said it is fascinating how many people play in that area. It could look better but it is used. Commissioner de Arakal suggests getting together with their neighbors and talking about it.

Commissioner Eckles presents report

Lions Park – Commissioner Eckles said this park has multiple uses but it is under use because there is a homeless population problem. Would like to put more rangers out in the park to monitor more. He would like to put electronic key pad gate locks and pad lights. He asked how much the sand is swept, Burce Hartley said staff rotates the sand on a quarterly schedule. Commissioner Eckles wants to switch to rubber instead of sand.

Shalimar Park – Commissioner Eckles does not like the wood chips, he believes drug

dealers put drugs in the woodchips. The other issue at the park is the two picnic tables, they need to be replaced. The share a book box is not utilized and damaged.

Vista Park – Commissioner Eckles said this is his one of favorite parks in his district. It is used by a lot of people and has great views. There is minimal parking and wants to eliminate the barbeques. Commissioner Eckles says there is a homeless problem at this park also especially at the end of the parking lot and street because it low visibility; he suggests there being lighting and also trail fences.

Marina View Park – Commissioner Eckles said neighbors were upset about the crime in the park; there also needs to be more sand sweeping or put rubber surface and he also wants to eliminate the barbeque.

Canyon Park – Commissioner Eckles said this is his favorite park because of the expansiveness and the trails leading into the park. He saw a lot of pickup games being taken place at the large grass area. He would like to see a restroom facility and a shaded area; he would also like to see a basketball court being added to the park

Commissioner Eckles thanks Bruce Hartley for walking the parks with him.

Commissioner Graham presents report.

Heller Park – Commissioner Graham talked to a woman and she would like soap in the bathroom and more trashcans. He would like to see all the parks have a graffiti and trash hotline.

Pinkley Park – Commissioner Graham said the trashcans were full and there was a graffiti problem.

Harper Park – Commissioner Graham said there is a huge piece of rubber sticking out by the slide and a woman told him she has seen kids trip on it.

Jordan Park – Commissioner Graham said there is an issue of one of the locks being broken and people can get in and behind the boys and girls club building. Commissioner Graham said we need someone to go back there and see what we can do to keep people out of there.

Linbergh Park – Commissioner Graham said trash is a problem.

Brentwood Park – Commissioner Graham said trash is a problem but that is all.

Commissioner Graham said all the parks look good.

Commissioner Harper presents report.

Commissioner Harper says Mesa Verde, Suburbia, Estancia and Moon Park are all in great shape and look beautiful. He said he would like to give neighbors a hand out for them to have the opportunity to give feedback and tell the city what they want. Smallwood Park is a park that needs to be redone; it has a basketball court, restrooms and a baseball/softball diamond. He would like to remove the baseball diamond and put in a field. He said he believes the neighbors would really welcome this idea.

Commissioner de Arakal said the questionnaire is a great idea and he loves the idea.

Chair Pederson presents report.

Chair Pederson thanks the Commissioners for their hard work in creating the report and thanks Bruce Hartley for walking the parks with him. He said the parks in district four have great parks. He really enjoyed the process of looking at the parks and it got the Commissioners out and more involved. Chair Pederson said he sees a need for bicycle racks and also a need to sweep the sand more often. Chair Pederson wants to see a deposit put in place for rentals because a mess is sometimes left. He said Wimbledon Park has a really great fitness center that he saw being used a lot and he thinks it would be a great idea to expand on the fitness centers and put them into different areas in the different parks. Chair Pederson would also like to see more formal monument signs at the parks.

Del Mesa Park – Chair Pederson said it is in great condition; it needs improved signage. Bruce Harley said the Commission has approved signage and they are going into the parks and some have already gone in.

Gisler Park – Chair Pederson believes we need gates to shut it down because we have a lot of trouble with people flying through the area. He would also like to see a shade structure in the park. He would also like to see benches and water fountains.

Paularino Park – Chair Pederson would like to see irrigation upgrade and improvements. He would like to see a barbeque at the park as well as a drinking fountain. He said Saturday morning there were a lot of people working out at the park.

Shiffer Park – Chair Pederson said we need to do something with the handball structure; he saw people using it but he also knows it causes issues so he is not sure which way to go with it and would like to sit down with staff. Chair Pederson said people have had issues at this park and they are issues that need to be addressed but every time he has been there, he has not seen any of those issues. He suggests to everyone who sees anything to be sure to take pictures and document the issues. He also wants a restroom and playground renovation.

Wakeham Park – Chair Pederson said he went out there on a Saturday. He would like to put lights in the park because of how big the area is. He would also like to see a split rail gate in. Chair Pederson also said this park could use a whole playground area renovation. He would also like to see lights in the walkway.

Wimbledon Park – He would like to see park benches and a drinking fountain.

Travis Karlen said that is already in place and a fee is retained if they do not clean up after themselves. Chair Pederson would also like a copy of each Commissioner's reports. Chair Pederson thanked Bruce Hartley.

10. Parks Project Manager's Report

Bartazar Mejia presents report.

11. Recreation Manager's Report.

Travis Karlen presents report.

12. Maintenance Managers Report

Bruce Hartley presents report.

13. Commissioners Comments

Commissioner Graham speaks about wanting to put a bench in Fairview Park. He would like to do a study and put the bench in and leave it for a month and see how the residents and community members react to it and see if they would like a permanent bench.

Commissioner Harper said there were a lot of homeless people in Fairview Park and later in his walk he saw police and they said if he sees homeless people, they want to be notified about it. Commissioner Harper thanks staff and Commission.

Vice Chair Eckles thanks staff. Vice Chair Eckles asks Travis Karlen about parking at the Daily Pilot Cup. Travis Karlen said we have yet to talk about parking but it is on the agenda for next week to begin working out the parking concerns. Vice Chair Eckles said he suggests putting in some sort of shuttling system and having people be shuttled in because there are so many people and someone could get hurt.

Commissioner de Arakal thanks staff and thanked the Commission for their park district reports.

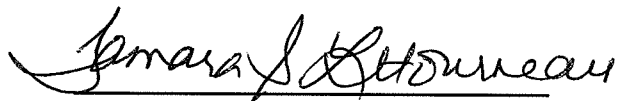
Chair Pederson thanked staff and commission members.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Pederson. The next regular scheduled agenda review on Thursday, May 28, 2015 at 5:15 p.m. in Conference Room 3A of City Hall, followed by the Commission meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.



Prepared by Kristina Roche
PRC Secretary



Submitted by Tamara Leatourneau
Assistant Chief Executive Officer