

From: [Lauren Sapudar](#)
To: [Marilyn Monreal](#)
Subject: FW: Parks & Recreation Master Plan Recommendations
Date: Monday, February 04, 2019 3:50:59 PM
Attachments: [image009.png](#)
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[image016.png](#)



Lauren Sapudar

Executive Assistant to City Manager and City Council
City Manager's Office/City Clerk's Office
LaurenS@cupertino.org
(408) 777-1312



From: Gerhard Eschelbeck [<mailto:gerhard@eschelbeck.com>]
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2019 8:30 PM
To: City Council <CityCouncil@cupertino.org>; Jeff Milkes <JeffM@cupertino.org>; Timm Borden <Timmb@cupertino.org>; Gail Seeds <GailS@cupertino.org>
Subject: Parks & Recreation Master Plan Recommendations

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

Please allow me to summarize some input on the 2018 parks and recreation system master plan.

1) Even though this plan is a 20 year forward-looking plan, chapter 5 suggests all projects for 2019. It is less clear to me what the short term priorities (3-5 years) should be, especially considering some of the major projects. Maybe one way would be to outline the specific priorities for the next 3-5 years in chapter 5

2) I recommend to make community gardens in Cupertino a more prominent feature of this master plan. A new and highly successful community garden project in Santa Clara shows strong interest as well as a waiting list from residents. I would see rebuilding the existing community garden at McClellan Ranch, and an additional community garden on the east side of Cupertino a very high priority. I am very familiar with this project in Santa Clara, as the bee guild is providing beehives for pollination. We have many beekeepers including ourselves, who would be willing to setup beehives for these community gardens in Cupertino.

3) I would generally focus on improving, extending and maintaining the usefulness of

existing parks (including easy improvements as seating, shade structures and trees, ..) vs. adding additional park locations - with one exception: The East side of Cupertino is under-served from a park perspective, and recommend to implement a park environment (i.e. the Lawrence Mitty parcel). Maybe including the community garden proposed above.

4) Related to the MasterPlan Goal 2: Connection - this section lists many possible trails throughout the city, and priorities are less clear. Our existing bicycle and pedestrian plan has identified priorities already. For example, the Cupertino Loop is designed to connect major park features and reach most areas of the city, it would be important to align this section to the Cupertino Loop in our existing bicycle and pedestrian plan.

Thank You for reading and considering this feedback,
Gerhard Eschelbeck.

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To: citycouncil@cupertino.org

Message Score: 15

High (60): **Pass**

From: gerhard@eschelbeck.com

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From: [Lauren Sapudar](#)
To: [Marilyn Monreal](#)
Subject: FW: parks master plan
Date: Monday, February 04, 2019 3:51:19 PM
Attachments: [image009.png](#)
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Lauren Sapudar

Executive Assistant to City Manager and City Council
City Manager's Office/City Clerk's Office
LaurenS@cupertino.org
(408) 777-1312



From: Anne Ng [<mailto:anneng@aol.com>]
Sent: Saturday, February 02, 2019 9:45 AM
To: City Council <CityCouncil@cupertino.org>
Subject: parks master plan

Please endorse the proposed Parks Master Plan. While I'm sorry to say I failed to participate in its development as a board member of the Friends of Stevens Trail, I am impressed with its coverage of trail issues, both the Stevens Creek Trail and all the others, and of the Stevens Creek Corridor.

Anne Ng
6031 Bollinger Road
Cupertino

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To: citycouncil@cupertino.org

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From: anneng@aol.com

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From: [Peggy Griffin](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Parks and Rec Master Plan Disappointing - left out all the joint facilities!
Date: Monday, February 04, 2019 11:32:29 PM

Dear Mayor Scharf and Council Members,

I submitted some input through the Parks and Rec online form but my disappointment with this plan was not reflected in my initial comments. I feel too too strongly to not point out a major omission - that of all the joint facilities currently available to our community.

Examples:

- Lawson Middle School has a track, field, tennis courts, basketball hoops, a multipurpose auditorium/gym. People in my neighborhood rely on access to Lawson to walk, jog, play, etc. yet it was not mentioned! In fact, some of the maps that showed schools left it out.

- Cupertino High School has a cushioned track, field, tennis courts. It also has other facilities that are not currently open to the public but might be one day if our City worked with FUHSD to make it happen.

- Sedgwick Elementary School is a resource

- Fremont High School is in Sunnyvale but it's pool is available to our residents!

- Monta Vista High, Lynbrook High, Homestead High are all local schools with fantastic resources!

- De Anza College has a track open to the public. Flint Center is an auditorium.

All the high schools have auditoriums that are not always used. Why build a new one without investigating if existing ones would fit the bill?

All the above resources were left out!

Also, kids need a place to run, jump, kick a ball, play games and so do adults! If you construct buildings over our limited park areas you reduce their opportunity to do these basic activities. Keep it simple, leverage existing resources surrounding us and our money will go further.

Thank you,
Peggy Griffin

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To: cityclerk@cupertino.org

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From: griffin@compuserve.com

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From: [Lauren Sapudar](#)
To: [Marilyn Monreal](#)
Subject: FW: Parks and Rec Master Plan Disappointing - left out all the joint facilities!
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 9:31:53 AM
Attachments: [image009.png](#)
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Item No. 16



Lauren Sapudar

Executive Assistant to City Manager and City Council
City Manager's Office/City Clerk's Office
LaurenS@cupertino.org
(408) 777-1312



From: Peggy Griffin [<mailto:griffin@compuserve.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 11:35 PM
To: City Council <CityCouncil@cupertino.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@cupertino.org>
Subject: Parks and Rec Master Plan Disappointing - left out all the joint facilities!

Dear Mayor Scharf and Council Members,

I submitted some input through the Parks and Rec online form but my disappointment with this plan was not reflected in my initial comments. I feel too too strongly to not point out a major omission - that of all the joint facilities currently available to our community.

Examples:

- Lawson Middle School has a track, field, tennis courts, basketball hoops, a multipurpose auditorium/gym. People in my neighborhood rely on access to Lawson to walk, jog, play, etc. yet it was not mentioned! In fact, some of the maps that showed schools left it out.

- Cupertino High School has a cushioned track, field, tennis courts. It also has other facilities that are not currently open to the public but might be one day if our City worked with FUHSD to make it happen.

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- Fremont High School is in Sunnyvale but it's pool is available to our residents!

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All the high schools have auditoriums that are not always used. Why build a new one without investigating if existing ones would fit the bill?

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Thank you,
Peggy Griffin

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To: cityclerk@cupertino.org

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From: griffin@compuserve.com

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From: [Lauren Sapudar](#)
To: [Marilyn Monreal](#)
Subject: FW: Citywide Parks and Recreation System Master Plan, comments for meeting Feb 5
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 1:14:37 PM
Attachments: [image009.png](#)
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Item No. 14



Lauren Sapudar

Executive Assistant to City Manager and City Council
City Manager's Office/City Clerk's Office
LaurenS@cupertino.org
(408) 777-1312



From: Connie Cunningham [<mailto:cunninghamconniel@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 1:11 PM
To: City Council <CityCouncil@cupertino.org>
Subject: Citywide Parks and Recreation System Master Plan, comments for meeting Feb 5

Dear Mayor, Vice-Mayor, and Councilmembers:

The Master Parks Plan is a very good, comprehensive plan. I attended one of the outreach meetings and am happy to see that my comments about priorities were included. I reiterate them here:

1. Paramount importance is **acquiring more land for parks** (at ground level.) Land keeps getting more expensive by the day. Large capital improvements of the existing land should be second priority. The eastern part of our City does not have what the western side (including me) enjoys regularly — an open park for all ages, children's play areas, and open space for soccer, baseball, etc.

Of special concern to me is the Walter-Mitty park that has been in the works for many years. I recently read that we are in negotiations, but that the Water District is still not in agreement.

As we continue this long-term outreach, we should be looking at other sources of land. I have read recently about churches and other public buildings or quasi-public buildings; as they come up for sale, they would be a good source of land. Or perhaps the City could partner with any public or quasi-public entity to share parks.

2. Second only in importance to acquisition of land is the **need to maintain the parks**. The City must commit up front to increasing the maintenance budget accordingly as it adds new parks.

After acquisition of land and maintenance of existing parks, the other priorities come into play.

3. Keeping the natural parks we already have around McClellan Ranch Preserve are critical.

These are a couple more points that I want to make.

4. Dog Park: I have heard many people advocating for an off-leash dog area in Jollyman Park. I urge the Park Commission to consider that such a use of the park would become an “attractive nuisance,” meaning that dog owners from all over the region would come. Certainly, dog owners go to dog parks in other cities, such as Mountain View. Is that what we want to have? I do not want that. I sympathize with people who own pets and love them dearly. However, I am more concerned with the fact that we do not yet have enough parks for people and on-leash pets.

5. Performing Arts Center: Of less importance, I believe, is the performing arts center. I have heard many comments, pro and con, about the idea of a center. It is hugely expensive, which is probably one reason the City would consider taking it on. However, park land is hugely expensive, too, and more of a priority. Wealthy people contribute to art and theater. I think that a Foundation (or something like that) to begin work on building support and funds for a Performing Arts Center is the right way to go.

To summarize: Our population is growing, therefore, the need for acquiring, and maintaining, more park land is growing.

Sincerely,

Connie L. Cunningham
32 year Cupertino resident
Audubon member, Bird lover, Nature lover

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To: citycouncil@cupertino.org

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Grace Schmidt, MMC

From: Grace Schmidt, MMC
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 5:02 PM
Cc: City Clerk
Subject: FW: Feedback about Cupertino Parks and Rec Master Plan

Forwarding written comments for tonight's meeting.



Grace Schmidt, MMC
City Clerk
City Manager's Office/City Clerk's Office
GraceS@cupertino.org
(408) 777-3224



From: Liang Chao
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 3:48 PM
To: Timm Borden <Timmb@cupertino.org>
Subject: FW: Feedback about Cupertino Parks and Rec Master Plan

I asked Shani from Audubon Society to provide some more concrete actions that the city could take. Below is her recommendation. Could you please share with the team and other council members?

Thanks.

From: shani kleinhaus [mailto:shanibirds@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 12:26 PM
To: Liang Chao <LiangChao@cupertino.org>
Subject: Re: Feedback about Cupertino Parks and Rec Master Plan

Dear Liang, it was a pleasure talking to you and I truly appreciate your insights!

Here are a few suggestions. I hope these help! feel free to call again (anytime)

Thank you,
Shani

Shani Kleinhaus, Ph.D.
Environmental Advocate
Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
(650) 868 2114

1) In Appendix E Table E-1: Prepare guidelines to be used for any trail along a creek corridor and any neighborhood parks (large and small) within 300-ft of a creek.

- Plant native riparian vegetation along creeks

- Plant native oaks - at least 2 oaks, or 2 per acre for larger parks
- Plant vegetation that support birds and pollinators
- Add a water feature (fountain) to provide water for birds (unless the park is on a creek that flows year-round)

(amend the document to reflect this)

2) Under New features in Appendix E Table E-3

- In nature play areas, add butterfly gardens
- Add native plant hedges to community gardens

3) • Minimize light intrusion into environmentally sensitive areas

- Minimize/avoid lightning creek corridors

In addition: The master plan contains many references to installing or improving lighting systems. These include:

- walkway lighting at portal park
- professional lighting at performing/fine arts center
- lighting for citywide events
- field lighting, if feasible, for multi-use sports fields
- cricket field might include lighting
- lighting for dog parks/dog off leash areas
- basketball courts
- lighting for improved comfort and amenities
- lighting for improved outdoor event spaces
- lighting for pickleball courts

In order to minimize light intrusion into environmentally sensitive areas, we recommend adding guidelines that applies to the installation and use of artificial lighting systems:

- Use low, fully shielded lights, angled downwards.
- If using LEDs, avoid blue light by keeping the lighting color to a maximum of 3,000 Kelvin.
- Keep light intensity lower than 850 lumens wherever possible. (exceptions should be only in the cases of outdoor recreational facility lighting and security lighting).
- Ensure that light does not spill over into environmentally sensitive areas such as riparian habitats.
- Turn lights off at night during times when they are not used or needed.
- Minimize/avoid lightning creek corridors

3. Make sure that all buildings include bird safe design practices. These include:

- Avoid the use of multi-floor expanse of reflective or transparent glass in the first 60 feet of the building design, especially in the areas facing water or open space
- Consider the use of opaque, fritted or etched glass on the ground floor in areas adjacent to landscaped areas
- No up-lighting or spotlights on site. Use fully shielded light fixtures whenever possible

- Turn building lights off at night or incorporate blinds into window treatment to use when lights are on at night

On Feb 4, 2019, at 11:23 PM, Liang Chao <LiangChao@cupertino.org> wrote:

Shani,

Thanks. Really appreciate your detailed recap of your involvement with the master plan process.

I'm especially curious which "actions" and "policies" promote the vision and goals that Audubon Society values.

I just hope every park will have a butterfly garden!

Quite a few people mentioned the desire to have pollinating plants for bees and butterfly and even beehives or boxes.

Yet, I don't see any action or policy related to those. They are listed as one of the many many good ideas. But too many good ideas ...

Maybe I missed some important sections.

Please take a look at the chapter on Recommendations. Any comment?

Thanks!

Liang

From: shani kleinhaus <shanibirds@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 4, 2019 5:53 PM
To: Liang Chao
Subject: Re: Feedback about Cupertino Parks and Rec Master Plan

Dear Liang,

I would like to start by providing some background about Santa Clara Valley's Audubon Society's (SCVAS) engagement in the Park Master Plan process.

SCVAS had advocated for nature along Stevens Creek for decades. Debra Jamison and other SCVAS members in Cupertino fought to keep the creek corridor relatively free of urban encroachment and of intensive recreational use, while at the same time promoted a Tender-Loving-Care approach to bringing people to the creek and its environment. SCVAS has also promoted educational programs and nature-oriented activities along the creek.

I joined SCVAS as the Environmental Advocate in 2009, and in that capacity I have engaged in several City improvements to trails and habitat along the Creek.

In 2014, Cupertino looked to develop more intensive recreation along Stevens Creek. Our organization, and hundreds of Cupertino residents, expressed great concern. We asked for 1) a gentle touch, and focus on the protection of nature and wildlife and avoidance of an increase in intensive, vibrant uses, and 2) We asked Cupertino to wait, and to develop a plan for the Stevens Creek corridor only after a city-wide park master plan is developed.

In 2015, Cupertino City Council decided not to proceed with any of the intensive-recreation alternatives, and to prepare a Citywide Parks Master Plan.

In 2017, Cupertino Staff looked for an advisory group member who could represent the interests of those who value Natural Resources/Open Space. SCVAS was offered the opportunity to participate in the Advisory group to the Park Master Plan planning effort. My executive director asked me if I would be interested in participating. I was happy to say YES. At that time, I was already participating in the planning effort for Palo Alto's Park and Recreation Master Plan the San Jose Greenprint plan for parks and community services. So I felt I had some perspective and insights I can bring to Cupertino.

Of the 3 city Park Master Plan processes, I think Cupertino's process was the most robust. Staff invested in reaching out to the community. There was a huge response online, and what was clear is that the public in Cupertino (and in Palo Alto and in San Jose) appreciates nature, and residents want interaction with the natural environment. As in other Cities, attendance at public meetings was not as strong as participation online, but this is only to be expected when something good is happening (more people show up when they are unhappy...)

So - what did I do as a member of the Advisory Group?

I tried to help staff and the consultant incorporate the community yearning for nature into the various components of the plan - from the vision and mission to specifics. I discussed the plan with other environmental groups and with SCVAS members who are Cupertino Residents and love nature.

The Advisory group was diverse and engaged, and we had many productive and informative discussions. Staff presented the outcomes of these discussions to the Parks and Recreation Committee and/or City Council and then returned to us with updates and refinements. I thought they did their work with integrity, and with passion for a good outcome for the community.

The outcome, like many Master Plans, is a relatively high level plan. It does not go into great detail for specific parks but it provides a great vision, a sound mission and laudable goals that I hope will guide every specific park development and help fill gaps. The plan provides guidance to accomplishing the goals.

I cannot point to any of the Objectives or Actions (chapter 3) and claim "ownership". I contributed to the conversation and the development of many of them. My interest focused on the items on pages 36-41 of the plan, but I participated in discussions on most of the other items as well.

I think the PMP provides a good foundation for the future. It looks to manage a limited resource (parks and recreation facilities) in a way that protects Cupertino's natural assets yet provides flexibility and resilience into the future, and tries to prioritize in the near future parks that the Council and residents look to improve.

I just hope every park will have a butterfly garden!

Thank you,
Shani

Shani Kleinhaus, Ph.D.
Environmental Advocate
Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
(650) 868 2114

On Jan 31, 2019, at 11:58 AM, Liang Chao
<LiangChao@cupertino.org<<mailto:LiangChao@cupertino.org>>> wrote:

Shani,

I did not realize you are the Shani whom sent this alert out.

The Parks and Rec Master Plan certain has a good vision and some good ideas. I am glad that you have "helped translate the vision into objectives, actions, projects and implementation priorities."

However, I am interested which specific "actions, projects and implementation priorities" did you help to create and support?
Which elements you might have concerns with?

Thanks. Your feedback would be important.

Liang

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
<Santa_Clara_Valley_Audubon_Socie@mail.vresp.com<mailto:Santa_Clara_Valley_Audubon_Socie@mail.vresp.com>>
Date: Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 3:59 PM
Subject: Action Alert: Support the Cupertino Parks and Rec Master Plan
To: <lfchao@gmail.com<<mailto:lfchao@gmail.com>>>

Click to view this email in a
browser<<http://hosted.verticalresponse.com/756507/065ca1b3f9/282972443/14b0565ada/>>

Dear Cupertino Resident,

Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society is very pleased with the Draft Cupertino 2018 Parks and Recreation System Master Plan, and hope you join us in supporting and promoting this outstanding plan.

What Is Happening

The City of Cupertino has completed its Draft Parks and Recreation System Master Plan and is now presenting it to residents and to City Council. SCVAS staff served on the Advisory Group, and contributed to the planning effort. We helped craft the Plan's vision which aspires to "create an inspiring, lively, healthy, diverse and sustainable community by connecting our residents to outstanding parks, nature and one another". We supported the mission that "restores, preserves, and protects our creeks, meadows, trees and natural areas", and we helped create Goals, including "Conservation: Protect nature, trees and natural areas in parks and throughout the city to support wildlife, ecological functions and a stronger connection to Cupertino's natural environment". We helped translate the vision into objectives, actions, projects and implementation priorities. We believe that the plan addresses the Cupertino's community interest in new policies and projects that include improving park and facility access and trail connectivity, as well as integrating nature, the arts, and extraordinary play opportunities. You can see the plan here: [http://forms4.cupertino.org/parks&recmasterplan/Library/pdf/Draft P&R Master Plan Jan](http://forms4.cupertino.org/parks&recmasterplan/Library/pdf/Draft%20P&R%20Master%20Plan%20Jan%202019.pdf)

2019.pdf<<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?SantaClaraValleyAudu/065ca1b3f9/14b0565ada/467ed4a206>>

Why This Is Important

The Parks and Recreation System Master Plan will provide direction for the Cupertino Recreation and Community Services Department as it improves and enhances parks and recreation through the year 2040. The plan, as proposed, is exceptional in its robust support for nature, habitat, wildlife, and ecological function, and we hope it will be approved and executed to the delight of nature lovers in Cupertino – young and young at heart.

What You Can Do

Please tell the City that you appreciate the work that has been investment in creating the Cupertino 2018 Parks and Recreation System Master Plan and that you are supportive of the plan. Specifically, express support for Plan's vision which aspires to "create an inspiring, lively, healthy, diverse and sustainable community by connecting our residents to outstanding parks, nature and one another"; that you support the mission to restores, preserve, and protect our creeks, meadows, trees and natural areas", and look forward to the implementation of the goal of "Conservation: Protect nature, trees and natural areas in parks and throughout the city to support wildlife, ecological functions and a stronger connection to Cupertino's natural environment".

1. You can share your feedback online: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q78PQ6K>
<<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?SantaClaraValleyAudu/065ca1b3f9/14b0565ada/e43a6be1c3>>

2. Or in a public meeting:

Wednesday, January 23, 2019, 7:00pm
Public Workshop Cupertino Senior Center,
Reception Hall 21251 Stevens Creek Blvd

Thursday, January 24, 2019, 7:00pm
Parks & Recreation Commission, Special Meeting Community Hall
10350 Torre Avenue Cupertino, CA

Tuesday, February 5, 2019, 5:00pm
City Council Study Session Community Hall
10350 Torre Avenue Cupertino, CA

Thank you,

Shani Kleinhaus, Environmental Advocate, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society

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Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
22221 McClellan Rd
Cupertino, California 95014
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