

SAN RAFAEL CITYWIDE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

STEERING COMMITTEE, MEETING #3 – Meeting Minutes

September 7th, 2022

(6:00pm-8:00pm)

Meeting

Purpose	Steering Committee Meeting #3
Location	Zoom

Attendance

Name	Organization	Member/Alternate
Catherine Quffa	City of San Rafael	NA
Craig Veramay	City of San Rafael	NA
April Miller	City of San Rafael	NA
Lauren Ivey-Thomas	RHAA	NA
Barbara Lundburg	RHAA	NA
Robert Sandoval	San Rafael Park & Recreation Commission	Alternate
Kate Sprague	Pickleweed Advisory Committee Member	Member
Cheryl Lentini	Library Board of Trustees	Member
Tim Park	San Rafael ADA Access Advisory Committee	Member
Ashley Tomerlin	San Rafael ADA Access Advisory Committee	Alternate
Kate Powers	San Rafael Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee	Member
Susie Pollak	Age-Friendly Community Partnership	Member
Sparkie Spaeth	Age-Friendly Community Partnership	Alternate
Scott Younkin	San Rafael Girls Softball	Member
Andrei Pasternak	Orcas Swim Team	Member
Meg Reilly	Marin Society of Artists	Member
Paul Jensen	Marin Conservation League	Member
Joe McCallum	Chamber of Commerce	Member

I. NEEDS ASSESSMENT

a. Community Outreach

i. Survey Tools

1. Statistically Valid Survey – March 7th through March 10th, 575 Responses
2. Parks and Recreation Questionnaire – March 30th through May 31st, 1,131 Responses

ii. Community Workshop #1

1. March 30th - San Rafael Community Center
2. April 28th - Terra Linda Community Center
3. May 5th - Zoom/Online
4. May 11th - Albert J. Boro Community Center

iii. Findings

1. Satisfaction with existing supply of, and access to, parks and recreation facilities and programs, but many community members are unaware of the City’s programmatic offerings.
2. Desire to update and improve the City’s existing park amenities, particularly to modernize playgrounds and recreation amenities such as benches, picnic tables, etc. as well as repairing failing infrastructure.
3. Desire for improved maintenance and cleanliness of the City’s parks.
4. Pedestrian access throughout the City’s recreation network – walking is a priority.
5. Support self-directed recreation activities.
6. Most frequented parks, in order of popularity*
 - a. Gerstle Park



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- b. Sun Valley Park
- c. Terra Linda Park
- d. Peacock Gap Park
- e. Albert Park
- 7. Most frequented recreation facilities, in order of popularity*
 - a. Terra Linda Community Center and Pool House
 - b. San Rafael Community Center
 - c. None
 - d. Albert J. Boro Community Center
 - e. Falkirk Cultural Center
- b. Document Review**
 - i. *San Rafael General Plan 2040, 2021*
 - ii. *Downtown Precise Plan, 2021*
 - iii. *Climate Change Action Plan, 2019*
 - iv. *San Rafael Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, 2018*
 - v. *Canalfront Conceptual Design Plan and Guidelines, 2009*
- c. Park and Facility Inventory**
 - i. Parks Inventory
 - 1. Many parks constructed in mid-20th century (60-70yrs old)
 - 2. 3 parks originally built in the 19th century (close to 100yrs old)
 - 3. Needs include:
 - a. Updated playground amenities per code and accessibility
 - b. Renovated sport courts
 - c. Improved signage
 - d. Infrastructure repairs and replacement
 - ii. Facilities Inventory
 - 1. Large range in age, construction type, and recreation provided
 - 2. Common maintenance and repair issues include:
 - a. Water intrusion
 - b. Aging mechanical equipment
 - c. Outdated electrical distribution
 - d. Door and window replacement
 - e. Moveable partition repairs
 - f. Painting and finishes
 - g. Exterior wood deck replacements
- d. CASp Assessment**
 - i. Certified Access Specialist accessibility report identified varying levels - high, medium, and low impact - of ADA barriers
- e. Recreation Assessment**
 - i. Challenges identified:
 - 1. Aging facilities with limited space, parking, sport fields, and joint-use agreements
 - 2. Program growth and long- range program planning
 - 3. Deferred maintenance impacts program opportunities - sport fields, sport courts, etc.
 - 4. Asset management planning to track lifecycle costs
 - 5. Staffing and funding

II. RECOMMENDATION PRIORITIZATION

a. Criteria – Description and Value Allocation



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- i. Health and Safety – maximum 5 points
- ii. Community Priorities – maximum 3 points
- iii. Service Area – maximum 3 points
- iv. *General Plan 2040* Guiding Principles – maximum 2 points
- v. Accessibility – maximum 2 points
- vi. Operational Efficiency – 1 point
- vii. Included in Previous Planning – 1 point

III. PUBLIC COMMENT, QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

- a. No public comment
- b. Committee members shared the following:
 - i. Appreciate alignment with General Plan 2040
 - ii. Include Downtown Mixed-Use within service area classifications
 - iii. Consider prioritization based on community profile - recreation program assessment is currently in progress
 - iv. Consider 'big picture' planning lens - application of 'big picture' components will take place as Plan progresses
 - v. Consider partnerships beyond City

IV. NEXT STEPS

- a. **Master Plan Recommendations**
 - i. Financial Strategizing

* Slight variance in order of popularity between Statistically Valid Survey and Parks and Recreation Questionnaire, but top sites are similar

