



To: Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: District 1 Leadership Group

Date: 10/21/20

Subject: Council Agenda 10/27/20, Item 7.1, File: 20-1282

Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers,

The D1 Leadership Group respectfully asks the Council to defer and reexamine the proposed Park Master Plan at 3257 Payne Avenue. There are many valid points made by community members as to why this plan should be deferred and reexamined and we request that you carefully consider those recommendations.¹

This letter will focus on one point and that is the size of the Community Center proposed for Phase 2. The proposed footprint for the Community Center consumes approximately one-third of this 1.9-acre park and requires parking that is greater than what is needed at either the Starbird or West San Jose Community Centers.

Phase 2 dictates the design of Phase 1

We have repeatedly heard that this building will cost on the order of \$30M and, as a result, may not be built for 10, 15, or 25-years. Assuming a cost of \$1,000 per square foot this translates into a 30,000 square foot building with 28 parking spaces.² To put this in perspective, this is six-times the size of the nearby West San Jose Community Center.

A building this size does not fit with the definition of a Neighborhood Park, which is what this parcel at 3257 is supposed to be.

How is a Community Center of this size justified given this is a Neighborhood Park?

This site could be an ideal solution for a modular building approach, such as what is being built for the community center/office for the Felipe transitional housing project. The price of a 1440

¹ Examples are at puebloplay.wordpress.com/category/community-event-2/letters-of-support/

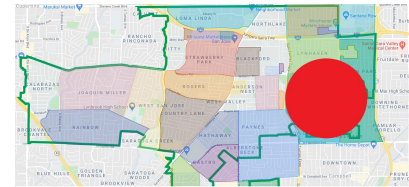
² *The Heart of Los Angeles in LA, a non-profit Community Center on an 8 or 9-acre park in LA that cost \$15 or \$16M for a three or four-story, 24,000 square foot community center*
<https://www.heartofla.org/artsandrecreationcenter>

square foot building of this type is around \$300k. The nice thing is that it is on a foundation that can easily be moved.³

Or, the city could lease space, such as at the Aron Development at Cadillac and Winchester, and have a community space that is even closer to the neighborhood than the new park. At \$250,000 per year (which equates to \$50/sqft/annum), the capitalized lease price would be about \$7.5M - more than the current budget, but much less than \$30M and it would be available within the next few years.

Given that Phase 2 is sized as a Community Center for the entirety of District 1, outreach should have been to the entire D1 community and not just the 1,500' outreach radius implicit in the design of a Neighborhood Park.

Additionally, the location is on the edge of District 1, so, it would not be equally accessible from all points in the District. Further, it is in the catchment area of the Campbell Community Center, which is approximately 1-mile away.



On the Edge of D1,
near the Campbell Community Center

Is there enough demand to support two large community centers that are so close together?

Community Services versus a Community Center

More importantly, isn't the objective of a community center to deliver community services? We should be looking at how it might be possible to design Phase 1 to better deliver services today, rather than decades from now.

A good proxy for understanding the needs is how Pueblo de Dios met the needs of the community. Unfortunately, PRNS did not reach out to the former owners of the property to see how the property was utilized.



Under Pueblo de Dios and, before that, Zion Lutheran Church, the social hall was used as a meeting place for groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous, the Boy Scouts, and others. There were Zumba classes, community meetings, and weekly food distribution. These were also the type of things that were requested by the community as documented by PRNS.

This post has some suggestions on how better services might be delivered to the Cadillac Winchester neighborhood today.

³ See this link <https://photos.app.goo.gl/K5meG3YThFiD2RfSA> for photos.

puebloplay.wordpress.com/2020/10/05/why-should-we-have-to-wait-for-the-community-services/

The ideas referenced in that post may require policy changes and may require working with groups in a similar way that [#SiliconValleyStrong](#) has done the past seven months.

Reduce - Reuse - Recycle

Figuring out how to use the existing resources is one of the best ways that the City of San Jose can meet its environmental goals while maximizing limited budgets. The current plan demolishes the worship hall, the offices, the social hall, and the preschool house. In the plans presented by PRNS, there is no evaluation of the economic and environmental value of preserving the worship hall, the offices, or the social hall.



The Social Hall - Built in 1989

Constructed in 1989, the social hall is relatively new. It has a large open room, closets, an office, a kitchen, and associated plumbing. It is comparable in size to the Starbird Community Center and served the surrounding neighborhoods as a de facto community center when Pueblo de Dios managed the property.

Where is the analysis that examines the possibility of renovating the social hall as a Community Center?

There is no analysis of what would be necessary to renovate the social hall in the File 20-1288 Memorandum. The memorandum provides, however, an inspection report for the approximately 80-year old preschool building.⁴ This is because in November 2019 PRNS proposed converting the preschool building into a temporary community center.⁵ There is no inspection report on the other buildings on the property, such as the Social Hall.

What is the estimated cost for renovating this building into a Community Center?

File 20-1288 Memorandum provides no evidence as to what it would cost to upgrade this building.

⁴ See page 52, <https://puebloplay.files.wordpress.com/2020/10/parks-memorandum.pdf>

⁵ See Nover 29, 2019 Memorandum to Parks and Recreation Commission, page 3 https://puebloplay.files.wordpress.com/2019/11/item_vii_b_payne-ave-master-plan.pdf

Further Study Required

We recommend that the Council defer PRNS's proposal and address the concerns and questions raised by us and others.

In Community,

D1 Leadership Group Board Members

Jerry Giles (Treasurer)

Steve Ling (Secretary)

Doris Livezey (At Large)

Ken Pyle (Chair)

Ramona Snyder (Vice-Chair)

October 19, 2020

Mayor and Council
City of San Jose
San Jose, CA

RE: DELAY VOTE on PRNS Plan for park at 3257 Payne Avenue - 10/27/20, FILE: 20-1282, ITEM: 7.1e,

Honorable Councilmembers,

Regarding the September 2nd, 2020 Parks Commission meeting, Item VII-A, the park at 3257 Payne, there are a few corrections and clarifications that need to be made as they materially impacted the discussion and resulting vote by the commissioners. The WNAC has been deeply involved with the community on this property and is located in the heart of the WNAC area.

Recommendation/Request:

We ask that the Council DELAY a vote on PRNS's plan for the park at 3257 Payne Avenue. We ask for this delay due to poor community communication on meetings (e.g., adjacent park neighbors never noticed), significant community disconnect on current design, important information brought out at the January 2020 to the Parks Dept wasn't shared with the Parks Commission (about poor meeting notification communication), and the fact all in-person meetings were held at a Campbell locations. We want to have the opportunity to effectively engage with PRNS.



Background

We recommend engagement with the local community and looking at building around the efforts and investment put forth by the community when they built the Sharks' playground and that staff re-engage the community in a process that is in the spirit of the "lighter, quicker, cheaper" approach.¹ This is the type of approach that the WNAC

¹ *Placemaking* from the Project for Public Spaces https://uploads-ssl.webflow.com/5810e16fbe876cec6bcbd86e/5a6a1c930a6e6500019faf5d_Oct-2016-placemaking-booklet.pdf

advocated for when we recommended that the city of San Jose purchase the land for the park.²

1. PRNS staff suggested that the concrete footings of the existing Sharks' playground do not meet city standards or code. This alleged shortcoming is not detailed in the Master Plan nor was it in any of the earlier documentation PRNS submitted on the project.
 - A. It also raises a question as to why the city would issue permits, approved by Planning, the Fire Department, etc. if any portion of the playground did not meet standards or code?³
 - B. Wouldn't approving non-standards or code construction put the city at risk if there was an issue?
 - C. Additionally, professional engineers indicate that "**There are no "code" requirements for footings, they are an engineered component.**"⁴ This is a significant statement, as it means we could build around and add to the existing playground, saving hundreds of thousands of dollars and the environmental costs of destroying a playground that has many more years of useful life.⁵
2. PRNS also contradicts its November 29th, 2019 Master Plan, which suggests the playground could be part of the Phase 1 plan by upgrading "playground for safety compliance."⁶ It is important to note that the reason the November 2019 Master Plan was pulled from the agenda was because of concerns by the Eden Neighborhood about the lack of community engagement.
3. We have talked to neighbors adjacent to the park and have found no evidence of flyer distribution. The only banner indicating there was a meeting was for the first meeting in 2019. It is not clear that electronic media (Nextdoor, Twitter, Facebook, email, etc.) was effectively used to reach all the neighborhoods within

² March 13, 2017 Letter

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1isAG6m8I8estPTZTzkM5k7LdpUew3fS4/view?usp=sharing>

³ See this email exchange with Councilmember Constant regarding the fees paid to the city for the permitting process and ideas on how future such public-private partnerships could be improved.

<https://puebloplay.wordpress.com/2020/09/03/post-permit-review/>

⁴ Further, this folder contains the engineering documentation <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0Bx-r2Pxkb-UDZllrcE5RaVRabEk> and this one is the engineering for the footings <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1azm71xG-YjAABgtV9PMnDqKxQjErMdbS>

⁵ For more details, see this link <https://puebloplay.wordpress.com/2020/09/25/and-about-that-community-built-sharks-playground-at-the-park-at-3257-payne-avenue/>

⁶ Please see page 19 of the November 2019 Master Plan for a New Park at 3257 Payne. Note, PRNS never lists what upgrading to safety compliance means, but it most likely refers to upgrading the playground surface from fiber to a rubber surface so that wheel chairs could traverse it to the ADA-compliant swing.

https://puebloplay.files.wordpress.com/2019/11/item_vii_b_payne-ave-master-plan.pdf

a 1,500' radius. Further, given that this is a neighborhood park, the outreach should have been a 1/2-mile radius since that is the target market.

4. Further, we question the focus of constructing a new community center versus delivering services to the community. We believe there are opportunities to connect and augment existing public and private resources to help serve the neighborhood today.⁷

Speaking of the target market, the city missed an opportunity to do something different in planning this park. This was the opportunity to actively engage the people who are living here now, look to the future when the Winchester corridor will be drastically different, and mix it together to come up with a solution that meets the needs of today, while providing a foundation for the future.

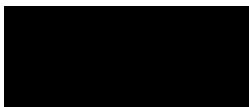
Summary

With the existing playground, the community garden, and the revenue from an on-site preschool, we had the basis for a unique placemaking experience. In short, particularly since this about a park, this should have been a fun experience.

Unfortunately, what we have experienced has been a Payne (misspelling intentional) in the park. Again, we recommend re-engaging the community in a process that is in the spirit of the “lighter, cheaper, quicker” approach.

Stay tuned, as we will be releasing a WNAC-led survey later this week regarding the community’s thoughts on this new park.

In Community and on behalf of the WNAC,



Kirk Vartan

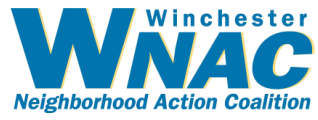
President, WNAC

www.WinchesterNAC.com

www.puebloplay.wordpress.com

The Winchester Neighborhood Action Coalition (WNAC) is a group of neighborhood associations, bounded by Pruneridge Ave to the North, I-880/17 to the East, San Tomas Expressway to the West, and Hamilton Ave to the South. It includes parts of San Jose, Santa Clara, and Campbell.

⁷ Please see the post at this link for more detail about the services already offered in the area
<https://puebloplay.wordpress.com/2020/10/05/why-should-we-have-to-wait-for-the-community-services/>



cc:

San Jose: Parks Commissioners, City Manager, City Clerk

Santa Clara: Mayor, Council, City Manager, City Clerk

Campbell: Mayor, Council, City Manager, City Clerk

Cupertino: Mayor, Council, City Manager, City Clerk

County Supervisor: Ellenberg - District 4

Assemblymember: Low (D-28), Chu (D-25)

Senator: Beall (D-15), Wieckowski (D-10)

FW: Pueblo Play aka Sharks Playground aka somewhere on Payne city park.

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 10/19/2020 4:06 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: J'Carlin <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 2:35 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Ken Pyle <[REDACTED]>; Kirk Vartan <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Pueblo Play aka Sharks Playground aka somewhere on Payne city park.

[External Email]

In 2013 the community around Eden and Payne, desperate for a safe play space for the neighborhood children convinced Pueblo De Dios Church to allocate space for a playground that the neighborhood would build and maintain. Once they had the rights to build the playground the neighborhood was able to enlist the Sharks Foundation to build the Playground. This playground was an immediate hit for the kids and was enthusiastically used.

Later Pueblo De Dios had to sell the property and the community convinced San Jose Parks to bid on the property to become a city park which was accepted by Pueblo De Dios. Many of the existing buildings were unsafe and could not be economically refitted so PRNS had to rebuild the park. Community meetings were held which excluded the neighbors that built the playground, and a community center was presented and made a priority, despite the fact that many community facilities nearby were unused including the Starbird Park community center which has been closed.

To provide space for this \$30,000,000 totally unfunded, unnecessary community white elephant, PRNS in Phase one planning decided to destroy this community funded playground on Payne and build an expensive new playground buried in the back of the park. This is a total waste of scarce Park funding, and an affront to the community that invested time, money, and energy to build this highly visible playground where children could feel safe while playing.

I urge City Council to reject this PRNS waste of money and have them replace the buildings with community picnicking and open space around the Sharks Playground which could be done at less cost than the new poorly situated playground.

Carlin Black
District 1 resident.

--

Carlin Black
THS Blood Drive Chair

Aka J'Carlin

From: Barbara Morrey <[REDACTED]>
To: cityclerk@sanjoseca.gov <cityclerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2020, 11:27:54 AM PDT
Subject: Letter submitted for the 10/27/20 Council Agenda, Item 7.1, File: 20-1282

To San Jose City Clerk

It appears that the following letter submitted to the Mayor and all Councilmembers as well as City Clerk has not been included in the agenda memorandum. I want it to be included.

From: Barbara Morrey [mailto:bsmor@pacbell.net]

Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2020 1:07 PM

To: mayoremail@sanjoseca.gov; district1@sanjoseca.gov; district2@sanjoseca.gov; district3@sanjoseca.gov; district4@sanjoseca.gov; district5@sanjoseca.gov; district7@sanjoseca.gov; district8@sanjoseca.gov; district9@sanjoseca.gov; Betty Kabanek <[REDACTED]>; Roma Dawson <[REDACTED]>; Tracy Huang <[REDACTED]>; Kelsey Bassanini <[REDACTED]>; Doris Livezey <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Delay the Vote-Re-Examine the Plan with Better Community Engagement, Council Agenda 10/27/20, Item 7.1, File: 20-1282

10/22/20

Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers,

In the 1980s, the rock band Van Halen had a rider in their contracts with promoters requesting that brown M&Ms be removed from backstage candy bowls. Many thought this was an example of rock star excess. In fact, it was a quick way to determine whether the promoter had read and adhered to a lengthy document that dealt with important issues, like the safety and well-being of the performers and the audience.

Although we are still examining the 66-page (FILE: 20-1282) Memorandum regarding the Park at 3257 Payne Avenue, we have found an M & M moment.

<https://puebloplay.files.wordpress.com/2020/10/parks-memorandum.pdf>

We believe this is a reason enough for the Council to put a hold on PRNS' plan for the Park at 3257 Payne Avenue and ask for PRNS to address the many open questions and ideas already submitted by the community.

Seven, Not 15+ Attendees

Page 6, Table 3, Line Item 4 of File 20-1282 suggests there were 15+ Attendees at the **Eden *NAC Community Discussion**.

In fact, there were 7 community members at that meeting as documented in the attached minutes.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nXuV9PQCnJd3AtzMqI5xd0LlpgUJTpj/view?usp=sharing>

This statement of 15+ community members in attendance is over 100% wrong. If they get something this simple wrong, how can we believe anything else in FILE: 20-1282?

Lastly, many of the details brought up at the April 29th meeting, documented at the aforementioned link, have not been adequately addressed by PRNS. The City Council should closely examine this document as some of these ideas may require policy changes.

In Community,

Barbara Morrey
Westside Neighborhood Association Resident
WNAC Treasurer

Fw: Council Agenda 10/27/20, Item 7.1, File: 20-1282 -Payne Park Concerns

Gregory, Barbara <Barbara.Gregory@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 10/23/2020 12:35 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thank You,

Barb Gregory



Analyst II

Office of the City Clerk

200 E Santa Clara St FL T-14

San Jose, C-A 95112

408-535-1272 Fax: 408-292-6207

e-mail: barbara.gregory@sanjoseca.gov

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: Lloyd Bass <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, October 23, 2020 11:07 AM

To: Peralez, Raul <Raul.Peralez@sanjoseca.gov>; Jimenez, Sergio <sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov>; Diep, Lan <lan.diep@sanjoseca.gov>; devora.davis@sanjoseca.gov <devora.davis@sanjoseca.gov>; Carrasco, Magdalena <Magdalena.Carrasco@sanjoseca.gov>; Khamis, Johnny <johnny.khamis@sanjoseca.gov>; Foley, Pam <Pam.Foley@sanjoseca.gov>; Arenas, Sylvia <sylvia.arenas@sanjoseca.gov>; Esparza, Maya <Maya.Esparza@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Council Agenda 10/27/20, Item 7.1, File: 20-1282 -Payne Park Concerns

[External Email]

Dear Council Members

I sent this email to Chappie Jones 10/4 who forwarded to the PRNS to answer some and Chappie would respond to what was not answered by PRNS. Chappie had a Zoom call with the Eden Neighborhood Association 10/13 and the Parks rep said answers would be coming by now-no response as of 10/23 morning.

IN Summary

Urge the Council to defer voting on the Payne Park Plans for the following reasons:

1) Public meeting notifications were handled poorly or non-existent (several households next to the planned Park indicated not receiving any notifications) and all the Public meetings were held at Campbell facilities confusing people that this was a Campbell situation. This was voiced in one of the last meetings to the Parks staff but according to one of the Parks Commissioners in the recent WNAC meeting was not brought up in the report to the Commissioners

2) The Park surrounding neighborhoods are significantly divided in the current approach.

3) The Plans (Phase 2) are centered around the Community Center that may not happen for 25 yrs (Chappie Jones words in the September 2020 D1 meeting). The Cadillac Neighborhood believes the Community Center will help solve their immediate needs but obviously they can't wait years for a Community Center

4) Did a survey (Enclosed) from the Parks website of over 100 smaller city Parks under 20 acres and three indicated parking lots. Verified two were not accurate and the third is highly suspect as it is only 0.3 acres in size. This is a neighborhood park so why are 19 spaces required in phase 1? Potential to invite more gang violence to the already troubled Cadillac area.

5) The current Sharks playground should be kept and added to as it was built by community members saving \$200,000. The Parks argument the footings are not to code is not a valid argument as the footings are an engineered component and this playground was built with approved City permits.

6) Lastly we need more open space along this Stevens Creek/Santana Row/Winchester Urban Southern development zone that is accessible. This Park is only a block west of Winchester.

Hopefully you understand that some more consideration/discussion is needed.

Thank you for your consideration

Lloyd Bass

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message

Hello Chappie,

I watched the replay of the first half of the recent District 1 Leadership meeting a couple of weeks ago in which you stated the proposed Community Center at subject Park could be 25 years away. Based on today's environment/budget issues that timeline is probably not out of the realm of significant possibility. Even if it's only 8-10 years away, I have some general questions/concerns that I would appreciate some feedback to:

- 1) How does this plan, Phase 1, meet the needs of the Cadillac area now since it appears they have immediate needs,
- 2) Why is the City planning and designing for something so far out in the future when needs are surely going to change given population growth and population turnover/migration,
- 3) What are the issues/needs of the Cadillac area now and what is the city doing to address these needs right now,
- 4) What is percentage of the Cadillac area population of District 1, which I'm sure is on the smaller side and why is it dictating the "requirements?"
- 5) Why were all the meetings held in Campbell/Cadillac area-seems to me a little biased especially when residents next to the Park failed to receive meeting notices?
- 6) Has the City explored some sort of partnership/usage with the Campbell Community Center, which is less than a mile away, to address the needs of the Cadillac area in real time-time to think outside the box. In these interesting times one needs some creativity to address/solve issues which to me appears, at this time, non existent from the City,
- 7) I compiled a Table, enclosed, indicating that over 100 small/medium size parks do not have a parking lots per the Parks website. Need to verify the 0.3 acre park, Hacienda, in East SJ has/has not a lot, which for such a very small size seems suspicious/impractical. The other two parks that indicated parking lots are not accurate as I drove by them- Santana (no lot) and Saratoga Creeks (glorified street parking). So why the need in Phase 1 for a parking lot. Is nineteen spaces really going to make a difference due to permit parking restrictions in the area and it takes away much needed open space. The City can designate handicap parking spaces on the street.
- 8) Did the City take into consideration the massive apartment complex at Williams and Winchester needs (which provided funding to purchase the park land)?,
- 9) How does this Park fit into SJ's vision/plan for the Santana Row/Stevens Creek/Winchester Urban Village plan for open spaces, as it falls on the southern edge?
- 10) Saving \$200,000 by using the Sharks Playground seems to be a very fiscally responsible action especially in today's environment. Arguments against the playground equipment issues are not accurately stated.

In summary, this Payne Park is clearly centered around a Community Center light years away. **WHY???** Seems like a simple question that no one has answered/addressed. Plus, the other questions raised above don't appeared to have been considered In the decision making process.

Thank you in advance for answering these questions.

Lloyd Bass

Eden Neighborhood resident for over 32 years and District 1 resident for over 41 years.

October 23, 2020

City of San Jose
200 East Santa Clara Street, 3rd Floor
San Jose, CA 95113-1905

Attention: Honorable Mayor Sam Licardo and Distinguished City Council Members

Subject: Council Agenda 10/27/20, Item 7.1, File: 20-1282

We submit these comments as an active family of participants in the building of the Sharks' playground. In short, PRNS needs to refine its phase 1 and phase 2 plan to incorporate the existing Sharks' playground.

Recommendation:

The general direction of the phase 1 plan, improving the garden, green space, walking path, demolishing the buildings is fine. It is especially good that the memorial tree is being saved. Specifics that need changing include:

1. Rethink the configuration for phase 2. Phase 2, with its large building footprint and its 28 parking spots, is driving the design for phase 1, as stated in the notes on page 64 of PRNS' memorandum.
2. Find a way to build the new play elements around the existing Sharks Playground, as well as incorporate the trees planted by the community as part of the 2018 BeautifySJ project..
3. Work with AMI preschool so that they aren't displaced. Perhaps, there are other underutilized City of San Jose PRNS facilities that AMI can use.

My family and I gave money to the SJ Sharks Pueblo Playground project and we all picked up a shovel (kids included) and personally worked on the project to make it a reality. This project had many City Dignitaries at the ribbon cutting and talk was that the Community came together, and this was a great Community Asset, especially due to the small number of parks in District One.

What changed and why does our work have to be torn up?

What changed that this Great Community Asset needs to have its heart torn out?

It's laughable to see the City Reports that suggest this needs to be torn down. If so why are all the similar playgrounds at schools and other playgrounds still in use?

There are other options that do not tear down our work, please go back and use them to leave our park for the kids.

Varich Family

██████████
██████████

FW: COUNCIL AGENDA: 10/27/20, FILE: 20-1282, ITEM: 7.1 - Footing Specification Code

City Clerk

Mon 10/26/2020 8:30 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

1 attachments (2 MB)

Ken Pyle comments on PRNS Park at Payne September 2nd 2020 Plan.pdf;

Thank you!

Best Regards,
Pawandeep Kaur

CITY OF SAN JOSE | OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
200 East Santa Clara St.
San Jose, CA 95113
408-535-1254

From: Ken Pyle [mailto:[REDACTED]]

Sent: Saturday, October 24, 2020 2:23 AM

To: The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <[REDACTED]> District1
<[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4
<[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7
<[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Parks and Recreation Commission 6 <[REDACTED]> Gomez, David <[REDACTED]> Parks and Recreation Commission 4 <[REDACTED]> Parks and Recreation Commission 1 <[REDACTED]> Parks and Recreation Commission 2 <[REDACTED]> Condit, Jason
<[REDACTED]> Parks and Recreation Commission 3 <[REDACTED]> Garcia, Diana
<[REDACTED]> Parks and Recreation Commission 10 <[REDACTED]> Parks and Recreation Commission 7 <[REDACTED]> Meyer-Calvert, Teresa <[REDACTED]> Parks and Recreation Commission 5 <[REDACTED]> Maria Ortega <[REDACTED]> Parks and Recreation Commission 8
<[REDACTED]> Mariana Damian <[REDACTED]> Parks and Recreation Commission 9
<[REDACTED]> Parks and Recreation Commission CW <[REDACTED]> Daphna Woolfe
<[REDACTED]> ENA Board Members <[REDACTED]> Ramona Snyder <[REDACTED]> Livezey, Doris <[REDACTED]> Kabanek, Betty <[REDACTED]> Kelsey Bassanini <[REDACTED]> Roma Dawson <[REDACTED]> Tracy Huang <[REDACTED]> Burnham, Nicolle
<[REDACTED]> Yotam, Avi <[REDACTED]> Zsutty, Yves <Yves.Zsutty@cityofsanjose.org>
O'Reilly, Torie <Torie.O'Reilly@cityofsanjose.org> Espino, Leticia (Barajas) <leticia.espino@cityofsanjose.org> Maciel, Mario
<[REDACTED]> Montes, Xochitl <[REDACTED]> Williams, Olympia
<[REDACTED]> Morales, Hilda <[REDACTED]> Canjura, Israel
<[REDACTED]> Mendez, Zacharias <[REDACTED]> David Rubin
<[REDACTED]> Mark Slichter <[REDACTED]> Maria Veliz
<[REDACTED]> Jerry Giles <[REDACTED]> Justin Lardinois

<[REDACTED]>; Steve Ling <[REDACTED]> District 1 Leadership Group
<[REDACTED]> James Reber <[REDACTED]>
Subject: COUNCIL AGENDA: 10/27/20, FILE: 20-1282, ITEM: 7.1 - Footing Specification Code

[External Email]

Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers,

Please enter the attached document and this email string into the public record for the 10/27/20 Council Meeting, FILE: 20-1282, ITEM 7.1.

This email string and attachment was also my submission to the 9/2 Parks Commission Meeting. Several questions asked in that document were never addressed. The main focus of this email is this question, which seems to be getting closer to being addressed.

Where is the evidence that the existing playground does not meet code as suggested in Figure 10 of page 6?

It was mentioned in the 9/2 Parks Commission meeting that the "footings" were not to standard. There was no evidence, however, of where they were lacking. Further, we brought this up in the D1 Leadership Group Meeting on September 26th.

<https://puebloplay.wordpress.com/2020/10/01/park-highlights-from-09-26-20-d1lg-meeting/>

Finally, this afternoon, *only four days from the vote by the City Council and almost two months since my original query*, there is some written evidence in the Memorandum released by the Mayor, the Vice Mayor, and Councilmember Peralez as to why the footings don't meet specification.

"The KaBOOM! playground foundation is constructed of 2500 PSI (pounds per square inch) concrete. 2500 PSI concrete has less cement, which acts as an adhesive agent, and does not provide the level of strength or stability offered by the City's 3000 PSI specification."

Request/Questions/Comment

1. I haven't been able to find the specification on the city website. Please provide it or send a link. I am curious, as a Professional Engineer with whom I have worked suggested that "2,500 psi concrete is capable of supporting axial loads of 360,000 psf... FYI... after 56 days the concrete strength is likely 3000 psi."
2. Was the specification different in 2014 when the playground was built?
3. If so, do older (e.g. 2014 and older) City of San Jose playgrounds meet current specifications, or are they grandfathered?
4. Finally, the minimum specification outlined in the [engineering document](#) for the concrete used in the footers is 2,500 PSI. That isn't to say that's what Kaboom! used, as they may have used 3,000 PSI. I sent Kaboom! an email this evening to see if they have a record of what strength concrete was actually used.

Assuming that there is some way that the concrete meets specifications, then the argument against the Playworld structure will be "useful life". Again, I refer to the attached document and the reference to the limited 25-year warranty that Playworld Systems provides for the core components.

I encourage the Councilmembers to check out the playground for themselves this weekend. And if you don't have time for that you can watch this brief video showing the current state of the playground.

<https://youtu.be/dWnL1wsO5nM>

Thank you,

Ken

On Sat, Aug 29, 2020 at 8:38 PM Ken Pyle <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Thanks, Jason,

My comments are in the attached PDF. There is a lot that I agree with in the plan.

Still, I believe that we can leverage the efforts and money invested by the Sharks Foundation and the hundreds of volunteers by building around the existing' playground. The attached document describes such an approach. It also points to many links which document much of what the community did starting on August 16th, 2013 when we answered the call to build a playground in San Jose (and achieved that goal 6-months later).

https://youtu.be/alqNd8C_SsI

There is a lot to digest in all the links in the attached, so my apologies, but it is difficult to shrink 7-years into a few pages.

In Community,

Ken

On Tue, Aug 25, 2020 at 12:30 PM Condit, Jason <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Good afternoon Vice Mayor Jones, David Gomez, and Community leaders,

Attached is the agenda for the upcoming September 2, 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting which will include the presentation of the Payne Ave. Park Master Plan.

All items are linked from the attached agenda, and the agenda can also be found online: <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/prc>

The meeting will be held virtually over Zoom Webinar beginning at 5:30 P.M.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Jason

Jason Condit | Acting Senior Landscape Architect
Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services
City Hall, 9th Floor | P. 408-793-4189
200 East Santa Clara Street, San Jose CA, 95113

Building Community Through Fun

[Website](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)

SAN JOSE
**PARKS, RECREATION &
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES**



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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

City of San Jose
200 East Santa Clara Street, 3rd Floor Tower
San Jose, CA 95113-1905
Attention: Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Services, Parks Commissioners

August 29th, 2020

Subject: Comments on the New Park Master Plan at 3257 Payne Avenue, Item VII-A of the 09/02/20 Parks Commission Meeting

To put the following comments in context and provide background that isn't in PRNS' report, my history with the property at Payne started in the mid-2000s when the former Zion Lutheran Church merged with Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, of which I am a member. In 2013, the playground builder, Kaboom!, approached community groups in San Jose with the opportunity to build a playground.¹

After realizing that we wouldn't be able to make this project happen at Moreland Little League, where I was the outgoing president, it was suggested that we work with Pueblo de Dios. With many dedicated members from the Pueblo de Dios congregation, numerous neighborhood partnerships, and a key partnership with the San Jose Parks Foundation as the fiscal agent, we applied for and won the Kaboom! grant.

We were excited to find out that the San Jose Sharks Foundation was the main corporate sponsor. As important as their financial and personnel commitment was, they were a catalyst that sparked cash and in-kind donations, and sweat equity from hundreds of people.

Kaboom! hosted a design day that featured kids of all ages and SJ Sharkie as a special guest. Over 200 people were at the March 7th build day, which was the tip of the volunteer efforts that went into planning and post-playground activities.

When the decision was made by Prince of Peace to sell the property, the City of San Jose seemed like it would be a good buyer, as it provided a path to preserve the play structure, which we had committed to when we signed up with Kaboom!. This was reflected in the comments submitted by the WNAC in support of the project and that encouraged the City of San Jose to make an active placemaking effort in the spirit of what the Project for Public Spaces does for communities around the country.²

Further, we held a placemaking event, with support from PRNS, in July 2017. This was followed up with a 2018 tree planting beautification event in 2018. In October 2019, we held another placemaking event at the property. When Pueblo de Dios and Prince of Peace left, Tracy Huang and her AMI preschool stepped up as a community leader to help facilitate our placemaking efforts.

¹ [Kaboom](#) has built or improved over 17,000+ playspaces furthering their mission of "End playspace inequity. For good."

² See [Comments on the Acquisition the Payne Property](#)

These results of our placemaking efforts are not provided in the PRNS report and the community playground build is barely mentioned as a single sentence on page 2 of the memorandum to the Parks Commission.

What we have experienced definitely does not meet our expectation of community engagement that we envisioned when the WNAC submitted the aforementioned comments in support of the City of San Jose purchasing the playground.

Recommendation:

The general direction of the phase 1 plan, improving the garden, green space, walking path, demolishing the buildings is fine. It is especially good that the memorial tree is being saved. Specifics that need changing include:

1. Rethink the configuration for phase 2. Phase 2, with its large building footprint and its 28 parking spots, is driving the design for phase 1, as stated in the notes on page 64 of PRNS' memorandum.³
2. Find a way to build the new play elements around the existing Sharks Playground, as well as incorporate the trees planted by the community as part of the 2018 BeautifySJ project..
3. Work with AMI preschool so that they aren't displaced. Perhaps, there are other underutilized City of San Jose PRNS facilities that AMI can use.

Background and Assumptions:

The plan is driven by the location and size of the community center proposed for phase 2. This is a large footprint building, which looks to occupy at least 8,000 square feet of land and necessitates 28 parking spots.⁴ The size of this building and that there is a parking lot is inconsistent with the role of this new facility as a **neighborhood park**.⁵

As has been asked multiple times, what is the business case for a community center of this size at a neighborhood park?⁶

Why can't the proposed footprint for this future building, if it is ever built, be on the Eden side of the property, leaving the existing footprint for the Sharks' playground intact, as roughly depicted below)?

³ PRNS Presenter notes on page 64 states " The current placement of the playground compromises development of the Phase II park and distance from planned playgrounds can create a challenge for parents and guardians to monitor children."

⁴ As reference, the nearby 7.7-acre Starbird Park has 19 parking spaces and the 10-acre, Hamann Park, zero parking spaces.

⁵ By definition, neighborhood parks are centered around active transportation (biking, walking) and do not have on-site parking.

⁶ Estimated at \$30M in the March 15, 2019 meeting, see page 27 of the PRNS memorandum.



Alternative Phase 2 - Leaving the Sharks' Playground Intact

The Sharks playground uses equipment from Playworld Systems, Inc. which is deployed by countless municipalities and is ADA compliant. Further, the City of San Jose Planning Department required engineering drawings for the concrete footings, which was performed by Manhard Consulting, Ltd. Please see Appendix A for these documents.

Where is the evidence that the existing playground does not meet code as suggested in Figure 10 of page 6?

Although some of the piece parts may only have a 5 to 10 year of life left as suggested in the PRNS memorandum, the core elements that are planted in the ground with concrete footings appear to live up to the limited 25-year warranty that Playworld System has for those components.⁷ In short, the Sharks' playground provides a solid base to build a much larger area that applies to a larger age range and with additional accessible play elements.

By using the investment that is already in the ground, this will reduce the estimated \$570,000 needed for demolition and construction of new playground equipment, by probably as much as \$200,000.⁸ This is \$200,000 that could be used either for additional amenities at this park or other nearby parks or parklets.

⁷ See <https://playworld.com/warranties> for warranty information.

⁸ The direct cost of the Sharks' playground is estimated at \$110k. The labor element assumes 225 people working 8 hours on preparation and build day at \$50 per hour or approximately \$90k..

Additionally, reuse is a much more environmentally-friendly practice than demolishing and building from scratch. Similarly, several of the trees planted as part of the community-led, BeautifySJ project are slated for removal in the current plan.

What are the environmental costs of demolishing the existing playground and how is demolition consistent with Climate Smart San Jose'?

Building around the existing community's investment will encourage additional private partnerships from groups like the Sharks Foundation and others. Conversely, removing what the community has built will discourage future participation by community members and institutions to invest in and beautify their parks and recreation spaces.

Lastly, the City of San Jose and PRNS should find a way to work with AMI preschool. AMI has invested a significant amount in the property during the last decade. More importantly, AMI has been a great steward for the property and has been a great community asset. AMI has been paying the City of San Jose rent, whereas, if AMI was a non-profit, the facility would be available to them at no cost.

Going Forward

The process of how the Shark's playground was built is the type of grassroots approach that the City of San Jose should use to shape the future of our local communities. Sadly, by removing the Shark's playground, the current PRNS' plan crushes the efforts and investment made by hundreds of community volunteers and local institutions. It is not too late for the PRNS to modify its course and design to create a truly people-centric playspace for all the community.

In community,

Ken Pyle

D1 Resident (Views are my own)
Former Community Chair Sharks' Playground Build
D1 Airport Commissioner
Secretary, San Jose Parks Foundation
D1 Leadership Group Chair
Vice President, WNAC
Hamann Park Webmaster

Appendix A - Links to Additional Documentation

Notes Specific to PRNS Plan

This [PDF](#) provides comments on specific points within the PRNS memorandum. One point in particular is page 17, where the DOT's traffic engineer suggests the traffic volume is too high and the pedestrian volume is too low on Payne to support a pedestrian crosswalk.

It also suggests a crosswalk would be 260 feet from Payne. If it were on the westside of Lexington, however, then the distance is 315 feet, This distance is comparable to similar pedestrian crosswalks on Naglee (see Appendix B), which has to have a traffic volume similar to Payne.

Also, is the Traffic Engineer basing the calculations on today's pedestrian count or when the property at 3257 Payne is developed into a neighborhood park?

Previous Suggestions for Improvements

- [April 29th, 2020 Virtual Meeting with PRNS & Community Members](#)
- January, 2020 - Plan Feedback
 - [Ideas for Improvements of PRNS 1/30/20 Plan](#) (text & video)
 - [Review of PRNS 1/30/20 Phase 1 Plan](#) (text & video)
 - [Review of PRNS 1/30/20 Phase 2 Plan](#) (text & video)
- [November 26th, 2019 Park's Commission Input](#) (text)
- [October 24th, 2017 Meeting with Angel Rios & others in PRNS](#)

Community Placemaking Examples

- [Key milestones for the community playground build](#) (text and video)
- [October 19th, 2019 placemaking](#) (text & video)
- [July 8th, 2017 placemaking report & video](#)

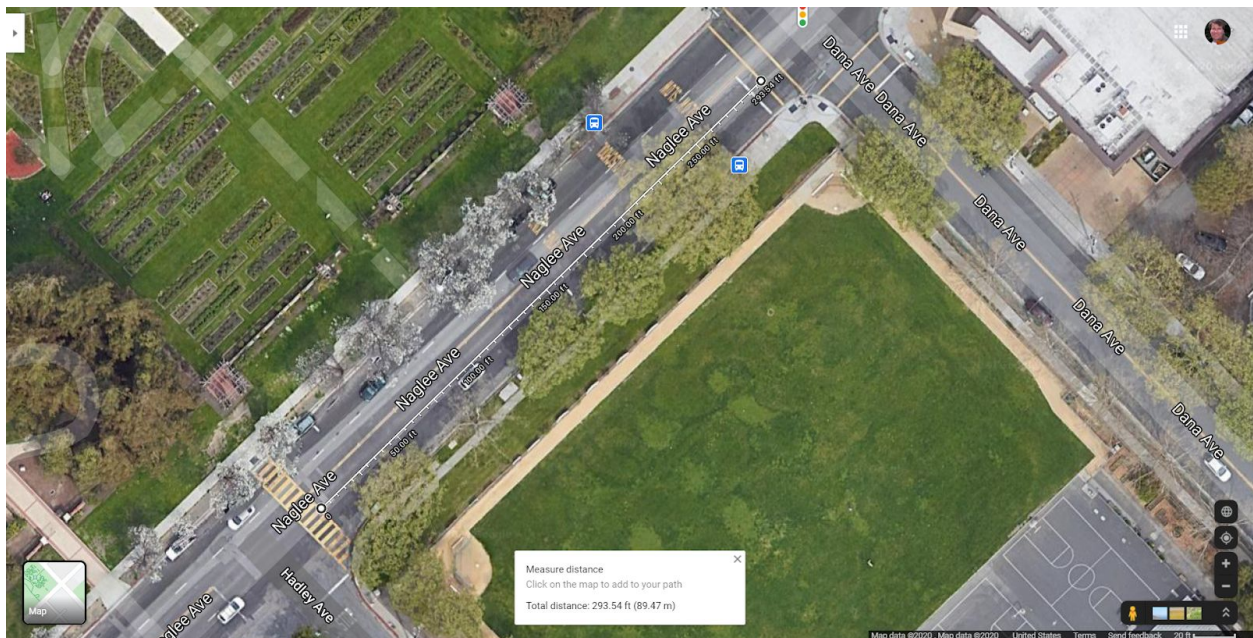
Sharks Playground Documentation

- [ADA compliance letter](#)
- [Letter of License](#)
- [Kaboom! Welcome Packet](#)
- [Playground design and material list](#)
- [Playground specifications](#)
- [Structural Calculations \(footings, etc.\)](#)

Appendix B, Crosswalks Near Intersections

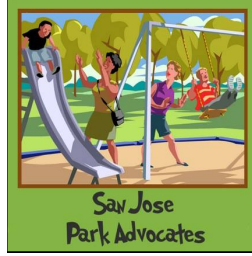


[Crosswalk at Hadley and Naglee which is approximately 350 feet from the stoplight at Dana and Naglee.](#)





[Crosswalk at Bellerose Dr. and Naglee which is approximately 324 feet from the stoplight at DiSalvo and Naglee.](#)



22 October 2020

DRAFT

Mayor Liccardo, Vice-Mayor Jones,
Councilmembers Arenas, Carrasco, Davis, Diep, Esparza, Foley, Khamis, Jimenez, Peralez
City of San Jose
200 E Santa Clara
San Jose CA 95113

RE: Payne Park Master Plan
Council Meeting Oct27, 2020 Item 7.1

Honorable Mayor and Council:

San Jose Parks Advocates urges you to reject the Payne Park Master which has been designed for phase 1 with sparse amenities and very large parking lot in anticipation of a large Phase 2 community center that is unfunded and may never be built—not even 25 years into the future. We believe the needs of the Cadillac-Winchester neighborhood can more appropriately be met immediately through leasing available building space (as is proposed in the Diridon Station Area Plan). The open space should be redesigned as a quality neighborhood park that meets more diverse needs with few parking spaces than the proposed 28 parking spaces.

Specifically:

1. The Cadillac-Winchester neighborhood expressed clearly that they need a community center **now** to serve as a permanent home for their Project Hope and youth intervention services; we agree. This generation should not have to wait 25 years for a \$30 Million community center that is unfunded and may never be built. Opportunities exist to creatively lease existing or soon-to-be constructed mixed use buildings on Winchester Avenue. The City has a long history of promising and not fulfilling master plans creating a legacy of bitter feelings.¹ The Cadillac Winchester neighborhood deserves better.

¹ For example, Roosevelt Neighborhood was promised prior to 2000 a gymnasium for their Community Center in a second phase of construction which has never come. The land is gone now and the gym can't be built. There are multiple other examples.

2. The long-term plan for this park provides inadequate public park space by diverting half to a community center and large parking lot. The remaining land serves only a portion of the community through a playground and a community garden with minimal area for all of the other users. The General Plan, the Greenprint, and ActivateSJ identified that it is critical to provide quality usable park space within walking distance for every San Jose resident with a goal of 3.0 acres per thousand. District 1 has a severe deficit of open space with inequitable park land distribution especially among the lowest income and densest neighborhoods, such as Cadillac Winchester. This at-risk neighborhood suffers from older buildings, higher density living, and lower health outcomes. With no access to open spaces, they do not receive the health benefits from open spaces. Nowhere nearby is free open space to take a “time out” from the stress of many people living together, since there are no parks and the local school grounds are locked and bar resident use. The nearest parks are across San Tomas Expressway and Winchester Boulevard. Both are wide and with high speeds; they are unsafe for children and seniors to walk across. In addition, Winchester Avenue it is undergoing densification will bring more residents to the area.

3. The City should not squander this opportunity to build a high quality and amenity-rich neighborhood park that meets the needs of diverse populations. This was a rare opportunity to acquire a single large parcel appropriate for parkland. It is extraordinarily difficult for the City to acquire and bundle sequential properties from willing sellers. This parcel could meet many more needs for different recreational amenities if half were not limited to just turf and parking due to the large footprint of an unfunded \$30M community center that may never be built. In contrast, the City has been able to lease building space much more easily in a variety of neighborhoods and structures.

4. It is not clear that a community center will be needed at this site in 25 years.² Nor is it clear that the current hub and satellite model will be sustainable post COVID after non-profits downsize or close. It’s been over 20 years since the city took a look at its community center program as a whole. Before committing this site to another community center, PRNS should plan for the 2045 city-wide needs and potential delivery models and then determine where those services should be provided.

5. It is not appropriate to use Park Trust Fund monies to provide parking for nearby apartment buildings. Park parking lots should be closed at night for the safety to limit illegal activity and sleeping in the parking lot. The current plan calls for construction of 18 off-street parking spaces in Phase 1 to serve the playground and the community garden. This is far more off-street parking than is usually provided at neighborhood parks and community gardens. San Jose’s General Plan calls for reducing greenhouse gas—turf and trees serve as carbon sinks and cool the city. Parking lots make the city hotter. The General Plan looks towards significant reduction in Vehicle Mile Travelled (VMT). Parking lots encourage driving. At a time when new residential

² PRNS staff acknowledged at a Oct. 15, 2020 community meeting that the demographics and needs will be very different in 25 years.

complexes are designed with fewer and fewer parking spaces, a precedent should not be set that city parks are used as overflow lots.

6. It is a poor policy and terrible community relations to promise large amenities that are decades in the future, totally unfunded and likely to never be built. This sets up a situation where an entire generation is acknowledged as needing a service but not worthy. If something is built elsewhere, community members feel misled and rightfully ask, “why not our neighborhood?”

Sincerely,

/s/

Jean Dresden
Executive Director

cc.
City Clerk
Jon Cicirelli
Nicolle Burnham

FW: INCLUDE COUNCIL AGENDA: 10/27/20, FILE: 20-1282,ITEM: 7.

City Clerk

Mon 10/26/2020 8:23 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

Is this for Agendadesk too?

Thank you!

Best Regards,
Pawandeep Kaur

CITY OF SAN JOSE | OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
200 East Santa Clara St.
San Jose, CA 95113
408-535-1254

From: Tom Morman [mailto:[REDACTED]]

Sent: Sunday, October 25, 2020 8:57 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <[REDACTED]>

<[REDACTED]> District1
<[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4
<[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7
<[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Gail Morman <[REDACTED]>

Subject: INCLUDE COUNCIL AGENDA: 10/27/20, FILE: 20-1282,ITEM: 7.

[External Email]

To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

From: Tom & Gail Morman

RE: Request to defer and reexamine the proposed Park Master Plan at 3257 Payne Ave

Dear Mr. Mayor and City Councilmembers:

I am writing to request that the Council defer and reexamine the proposed Park Master Plan at 3257 Payne Ave. There is a growing consensus among local community leaders including the D1 Leadership Group and the Winchester Neighborhood Action Coalition that the proposed Park Master Plan is not what the community wants or needs.

Our reasons:

- 1) We want flexible, usable open space for picnics, sports, gardens rather than more concrete, buildings and parking lots.
- 2) We would like a well designed park that meets current community needs rather than one that is configured for a future \$30 Million community center with no funding or start date.
- 3) We support the vision of the Winchester Urban Village of a “Green Necklace” circling the Urban Village to **“create a seamless automobile free transportation and recreation network stitching the community together and providing a pleasant pedestrian environment for all ages to access their neighborhood core”.** (Winchester Urban Village Plan, Chapter 4, Page 31)
- 4) Mayor Liccardo has long promoted, rallied and even joined with community volunteers. We respect and celebrate the local volunteers and the Sharks’ Foundation who built the current Playground. This Playground is used and loved. We would like it to remain.
- 5) There is a recent allegation of inadequate footings although the current Playground footings were an engineered component, according to Kirk Vartan, President, WNAC. We would prefer to have this inspected by a qualified structural engineer and enhance this playground, rather than destroy, relocate and rebuild another playground at likely cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Sincerely

Tom & Gail Morman

Residents of District 1

--

Tom Morman



More than anyone else, Maria Veliz deserves credit for the building of the Sharks Playground, which led to the new park at 3257 Payne Avenue. This is an article I should have written years ago that describes her efforts. The videos at the end of the article provide glimpses of her impact.

<https://puebloplay.wordpress.com/2020/10/25/the-real-community-champion-maria-veliz-team/>

Maria, the Natural Placemaker



With her knowledge of the community, she could teach a master's class in placemaking. Unfortunately, she was not part of PRNS's park planning process, as she would have brought many ideas and institutional knowledge to the table.

It is PRNS's process that concerns me most, as outlined in this post and associated video

<https://puebloplay.wordpress.com/2020/09/25/process-shortcomings-for-planning-the-park-at-3257-payne-avenue/>

For the last year, we have been providing constructive criticism of PRNS's plans, as seen in this series of videos.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLnoBT9w_v8Xv95fjwape2tYR98IXYs_QL

The first video in that series, which talks about providing community services inspired an effort last week to create a bi-lingual website that is a sort of a mini Silicon Valley Strong. It identifies the groups that are currently providing services in the Cadillac-Winchester area. The idea is that this could help connect those in need with those who can help.

<https://wnacommunity.wordpress.com/>

This was based on the research done for this post, which looks at how we might be able to provide better services today, instead of having to wait for a \$30M Community Center that might not get funded.

<https://puebloplay.wordpress.com/2020/10/05/why-should-we-have-to-wait-for-the-community-services/>

I could keep on going about the nuances of the process and our concerns and many of them are on our website at

<https://puebloplay.wordpress.com/>

Not So Concrete

Finally, it is extremely disappointing to find out four days before the vote that the Concrete Footings on the Sharks' Playground allegedly do not meet city specifications.

The term alleged is appropriate because we don't know what specification concrete was actually used and we don't know the strength of the cured footings, as they haven't been tested. Hopefully, Kaboom! can provide that information before Tuesday's vote.

We supplied the playground's engineering drawings to PRNS on April, 13th. These drawings specified 2,500 PSI minimum and met the [2013 California Building Code](#). Nowhere in PRNS's memos, whether from 2019, the September 2020 Parks Commission, or the current Council vote is there written reference to Concrete Footing deficiencies or an associated specification.

The first time we heard there might be an issue with the concrete footings was at the 9/2/20 commission meeting and the first time a specification was quoted was in [Friday's Memorandum](#).

A Waste of Time for Many Dedicated Volunteers and Citizens

If Friday's Memorandum is correct, then the city's lack of communications wasted countless hours of dedicated volunteers creating and communicating videos and posts like this one.

<https://puebloplay.wordpress.com/2020/09/25/and-about-that-community-built-sharks-playground-at-the-park-at-3257-payne-avenue/>

In Community,

Ken Pyle

FW: (Payne Ave Park Master Plan) - Comments

City Clerk

Mon 10/26/2020 9:01 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

Thank you!

Best Regards,
Pawandeep Kaur

CITY OF SAN JOSE | OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
200 East Santa Clara St.
San Jose, CA 95113
408-535-1254

From: Doris Livezey [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Sunday, October 25, 2020 5:14 PM
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Subject: (Payne Ave Park Master Plan) - Comments

[External Email]

Please add my letter to those commenting on the Payne Ave Park Master Plan

From: Doris Livezey [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2020 7:17 PM
Subject: RE: September 2, 2020 Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Packet (Payne Ave Park Master Plan) – Comments

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]> 'Condit, Jason' <[REDACTED]> 'Jones, Chappie' <[REDACTED]> 'Gomez, David' <[REDACTED]> 'Tracy Huang' <[REDACTED]>

Cc: 'Garcia, Diana' <[REDACTED]> 'Maria Ortega' <[REDACTED]> 'Daphna Woolfe' <[REDACTED]> 'ENA Board Members' <[REDACTED]> 'Ramona Snyder' <[REDACTED]> 'Kabaneck, Betty' <[REDACTED]> 'Kelsey Bassanini' <[REDACTED]> 'Roma Dawson' <[REDACTED]> 'Ken Pyle' <[REDACTED]> 'Burnham, Nicole' <[REDACTED]> 'Yotam, Avi' <[REDACTED]> 'Zsutty, Yves' <[REDACTED]> 'O'Reilly, Torie' <torie.[REDACTED]> 'Espino, Leticia (Barajas)' <let[REDACTED]> 'Maciel, Mario' <[REDACTED]> 'Montes, Xochitl' <[REDACTED]> 'Williams, Olympia' <[REDACTED]> 'Morales, Hilda' <[REDACTED]> 'Canjura, Israel' <[REDACTED]> 'Mendez, Zacharias' <[REDACTED]> 'David Rubin' <[REDACTED]> 'Mark Slichter' <[REDACTED]>

Thank you Marianna for your comments regarding last night's Parks Commission meeting. I would like to add mine. I was unable to speak at the meeting last night because I couldn't find a dial in number and I don't have a microphone.

This plan for Payne Park has already been decided. I was very disappointed to see that although you (the board) appeared to welcome input from others, you didn't take even a second to consider anything they said. So what was the reason for suggesting comments? People were totally ignored as Daphna asked for the vote. I was stunned.

A few months ago I believe I sent my comments to some discussion about the PARK. It is supposed to be a PARK. But calling it such and then using taxpayer funds to promote private space is an oxymoron. The "community" gardens are not for the community; they are for individuals. My tax dollars are going for people to grow food and as Daphna said, it's wonderful that they can feed their families. But what about the rest of the taxpayers, what do we get out of the PARK? And, if Phase 2 builds a community center, the one outdoor activity, a half basketball court, will be removed. The people in apartments will make very good use of that court and seems a shame to already be planning to remove it.

As I said, I am very disappointed to see a City meeting run this way. No consideration for the people who spent their time prepared to participate but were essentially ignored. I think you can do better.

Doris Livezey
Murdock Neighborhood

From: Mariana Damian [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2020 5:39 PM
To: Condit, Jason <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Gomez, David <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> Tracy Huang <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Garcia, Diana <[REDACTED]> Maria Ortega <[REDACTED]> Daphna Woolfe <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> ENA Board Members <[REDACTED]> Ramona Snyder <[REDACTED]> Livezey, Doris <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> Kabanek, Betty <[REDACTED]> Kelsey Bassanini <[REDACTED]>
Roma Dawson <[REDACTED]> Ken Pyle <[REDACTED]> Burnham, Nicolle <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> Yotam, Avi <[REDACTED]> Zsutty, Yves <[REDACTED]>
O'Reilly, Torie <torie.[REDACTED]> Espino, Leticia (Barajas) <[REDACTED]> Maciel, Mario <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> Montes, Xochitl <[REDACTED]> Williams, Olympia <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> Morales, Hilda <[REDACTED]> Canjura, Israel <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> Mendez, Zacharias <[REDACTED]> David Rubin <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> Mark Slichter <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: September 2, 2020 Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Packet (Payne Ave Park Master Plan) - Comments

Thank you Jason and Nicolle for inviting Eden Neighborhood Association (ENA) people to the meeting yesterday. It was a very informative meeting, and I do have few comments and questions:

1. ENA participated only to the meeting you hold on January 31, 2020 in Campbell. Thank you Ken Pyle for informing us about the meeting.

We provided our contact information with the City District 1 and Department of parking and recreation representatives, and mentioned we want to be involve on meetings and decisions regarding Payne Park,

On the presentation yesterday, Jason mentioned 2 meetings one in April one in May 2020, we never heard about.

Payne Park is on the ENA perimeter, our neighbors are very active on all activities, we have volunteers ready to help and support activities initiated by the City of San Jose and District 1.

I am leaving less then 250 foot from the Payne parking space and NEVER receive notifications about meetings regarding the Payne Park.

I am not sure why the meetings regarding Payne Park have been scheduled in Campbell? We have closer locations like Amber School, and Rosemary School, as well as community centers at Hamman Park and Starbird Park in San Jose, not to forget the San Jose Libraries where vice mayor Chappie Jones used to meet with the representatives from District 1. Please keep us (ENA) informed on ALL meetings, and decision regarding Payne Park, and when permitted in person meetings, please schedule them in San Jose. Please let me know if you need help with the schedule.

2 Jason mentioned on the presentation, 93% of the community requests have been considered- I would prefer a list of the ones that have been considered, as other than the adult exercise equipment that will be installed on the park, I haven't recall anything.

3. There was not clear if you will submit to City Council approval just phase 1, or the proposal for phase 2 as well. Please clarify.

4. Does San Jose City have a "Definition of a Park"? I was not able to find it on your web page. If so, please provide the details.

If the City is going to approve the phase 2 proposals as well, then the name "Park" is not appropriate. There will be only a little green space left, in the size of a small backyard, after building the "community center".

The lot is just 1.9 acres. For a community center, parking places, and more community gardens doesn't leave much open space. This is definitely not what you do expect even from a small size Park.

5. Currently, there are lots of meeting spaces, in schools, libraries, churches, Gyms, community centers that can't be used because of the Covit. And who knows what the future new rules will be implemented?

A community center is not a good use of funds.

Rosemary School and Amber Drive School have allowed community meetings for as long as we can remember (WNAC met there during as far back as the 1990s).

There are community centers at Hamman Park and Starbird Park that can be staffed and used, and there are very closed to the neighborhood.

In the past, during hard times, San Jose has leased community centers to other non-profits thus taking away their community access—witness Hamman Park, Starbird Park and the community center at Williams and Boynton. Why add another center that could be defunded in the future?

6. If the extended parking space is needed for the phase 2 community center, than what is this statement goes with the Cadillac request for having a community center affordable for people that can't drive?

If the additional parking is going to be use daily by the gardening center and during the night hours for residents of Cadillac with the RPP, then I will welcome the proposal.

7. Why an indoor center is needed, when most of the gyms are closing and people are running or walking on the streets in need for fresh air and green spaces?

Currently our streets are welcome people from our neighborhood as well from closer neighborhoods – you can see especially in the morning and late in the afternoon lots of people walking , biking or running, kids, adults and seniors. We all need green, fresh air. Let's build spaces to keep us healthy.

8. If the city considers a need for people from apartments to have rooms for meetings, then City must require all apartments buildings to have a designated meeting room for seniors and kids after school activities. This is a requirement for the building owners to provide, not from taxpayers that have no benefits from the apartments, to supply.

9. It is unfortunate the architects were unable to save the existing playground, and adjust it to the City requirements. This will create a big issue for us, to request future funding from contributors and private companies.

I think, the best way for you to decide on the 1.9 acres of the lot of Payne Park, is to pay a visit, in person, to the location. Please let us know if you need any help.

Mariana Damian
ENA President

Re: Future Park plans at 3257 Payne Avenue

Agendadesk

Mon 10/26/2020 9:03 AM

Sent Items

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Thank you

Agenda Desk

City of San José | Office of the City Clerk
200 East Santa Clara St. – Tower 14th Fl.
San José, CA 95113-1905
Phone 408.535.1275 | Fax 408.292.6207
[REDACTED]

Live updates of City Council Meetings can be found on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

From: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 9:02:00 AM
To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: Future Park plans at 3257 Payne Avenue

Thank you!

Best Regards,
Pawandeep Kaur

CITY OF SAN JOSE | OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
200 East Santa Clara St.
San Jose , CA 95113
408-535-1254

From: Doris Livezey [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Sunday, October 25, 2020 5:18 PM
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Future Park plans at 3257 Payne Avenue

[External Email]

This was also sent to each member of the City Council.

From: Doris Livezey [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Wednesday, October 21, 2020 11:44 PM
To: Sam Liccardo ([REDACTED]) <[REDACTED]>

Cc: District 1 Leadership Group <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Future Park plans at 3257 Payne Avenue

Honorable Mayor Liccardo,

The District 1 Leadership Group is requesting a deferral vote on the future plans of the Phase 2 park upgrade at 3257 Payne Avenue.

I am very concerned when I see large amounts of money planned or appropriated for a capital improvement project but there is no money set aside for maintenance or for staffing. The Starbird Community Center seems to have experienced that problem with a decline in staffing (during normal time). Why have a building if you can't staff it?

As we want the park to be the best it can be, a lot of thought went into our comments in the attached letter and I hope you will give it your consideration.

Our letter is attached. <https://puebloplay.files.wordpress.com/2020/10/201021-d1-leadership-group-letter.pdf>

Thank you.

Doris Livezey

Murdock Neighborhood Association

D-1 Leadership Group

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: Park at 3257 Payne Ave

City Clerk

Mon 10/26/2020 12:02 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>;

Thank you!

Best Regards,
Pawandeep Kaur

CITY OF SAN JOSE | OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
200 East Santa Clara St.
San Jose , CA 95113
408-535-1254

From: Kit Reed [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 9:38 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Park at 3257 Payne Ave

[External Email]

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kit Reed [REDACTED]
Date: October 25, 2020 at 6:30:35 PM PDT
To: district1@sanjoseca.gov, district2@sanjoseca.gov, district3@sanjoseca.gov,
district4@sanjoseca.gov, district5@sanjoseca.gov, district6@sanjoseca.gov, district7@sanjoseca.gov,
district8@sanjoseca.gov, district9@sanjoseca.gov, district10@sanjoseca.gov
Subject: Park at 3257 Payne Ave

Hello all,

We are long-time District 1 Eden neighborhood residents, helped build the Sharks playground and plant the trees. We also attended two of the three park meetings. We have some concerns.

Community Center/Services

We completely agree with Winchester-Cadillac residents that accessible services are much needed for them and other District 1 residents now! Given the impact of Covid 19 many families already suffer food insecurity and likely evictions; these numbers will only increase. Can services somehow be provided at the park site sooner rather than later without a large, \$30 million community center 25 years away?

Additional Parking

As a neighborhood, not destination, park more parking seems a bad idea even with a community center. Those parking spaces take away from park use. Long ago Second Harvest regularly sent a truck to the park site, not needing more parking spaces. It looked like many families walked rather than drove.

Community Garden

It's good the community garden stays. Aside from all the wonderful food grown there, it is an important socially connective place for the gardeners.

AMI Pre-School

This pre-school is truly an asset to the community. Tracy Huang, the school's founder, is a model tenant, taking excellent care of the site. She has been very involved in the greater community and teaches her students the importance of that involvement in every way.

Safety

Payne Ave is a very busy street. With the increase in San Jose vehicle vs. cyclist/pedestrian crashes, a crosswalk with flashing lights at Payne and Eden would be an important safety feature for a new park. We already have one at Phelps and Payne which most drivers respect.

Think Outside the Box

We very much appreciate all that you do for our city and understand the upcoming financial deficits. But in these crazy times we hope for a prompt plan to help those increasingly in need. Services should be available for families without a \$30 million center. This is not a park just for the Eden neighborhood; it fills a need in District 1 with the fewest parks in the city. Our hope is that it will be a magnet for folks of all ages, needs, and abilities, a place where more residents get to know and help each other across streets and artificial boundaries.

Kit Reed

Charley Reed