
FW: Defining and interpreting Charter Parks

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Tue 5/6/2025 7:48 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Bill Rankin [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 6:15 AM
To: Webmaster Manager <webmaster.manager@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; Councilmember Salas <district3@district3sanjose.ccsend.com>; 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>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: SOT Board <sot_board@saveourtrails-scc.org>
Subject: Re: Defining and interpreting Charter Parks

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Resending for today's meeting.

Bill Rankin
President Save Our Trails

On Monday, March 24, 2025 at 09:56:46 AM PDT, Bill Rankin [REDACTED] wrote:

San Jose City Council

San Jose City Manager
San Jose City Clerk
San Jose City Hall
200 E Santa Clara St
San Jose, CA 95113

Subject: Defining and Interpreting Charter Parks

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

Save Our Trails: Connecting Santa Clara County Communities is a California Not-for-Profit Corporation whose mission is "To promote trails in Santa Clara County for the benefit and enjoyment of all."

We, the board of Save Our Trails, advocate for policies that promote and protect the enhancement of San Jose's trails, ensuring they remain accessible and well-maintained for the public. We appreciate

the efforts to clarify the definition of Charter Parks and recognize the importance of providing a consistent approach to designating protected parkland.

We support PRNS' work in defining and interpreting Charter Parks, particularly in including city-owned trails. However, we believe that the proposed limitation of Charter Park status to only a 24 ft wide trail segment is overly restrictive. Many trails traverse areas that should be fully protected, such as the Three Creeks Trail and portions of the Five Wounds Trail. These areas, owned by the City, should be designated as chartered parkland in their entirety, from fence line to fence line, to ensure their long-term preservation.

Furthermore, we urge the City Council to recognize that habitat and open space are integral components of our trail systems. A more comprehensive approach to defining Charter Parks would enhance the environmental and recreational value of these spaces, ensuring that San Jose's residents continue to benefit from well-maintained and protected trails.


We appreciate your commitment to preserving our city's parks and trails and thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Bill Rankin
President Save Our Trails

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FW: Letter for item 7.1 May 6, 2025

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Tue 5/6/2025 10:56 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (21 KB)
2025-05-06 Item 7.1 Charter Parks.pdf;

From: jeanann2 [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 10:39 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Letter for item 7.1 May 6, 2025

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Hello,

Please post the attached letter to Council Item 7.1 Charter Parks May 6, 2025

--Jean Dresden

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May 6, 2025

Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers:

Protecting our City Parks with a robust interpretation of the City Charter language is important to many community organizations and persons. This item was planned to be heard on 3/25/25 but was dropped. Attached to that item were many letters of support. For some reason not clear to me, the City Clerk did not post those letters to you as part of your consideration of this item. I have provided the links to the prior letters and lists of signatories.

Our traditional parks, their adjacent Community Centers, trails and golf courses warrant explicit acknowledgement as chartered. Park land is a sacred trust which the city and its elected are bound to protect for the good of the community,

--Jean Dresden

Letters Batch 1 of 3

<https://sanjose.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=13942845&GUID=986733A6-FEC5-4FBA-A98C-1146D61B947C>

Virginia Holtz, former San Jose Parks Commissioner
Vicki Alexander, Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority Board – District 5
Eric Carruthers, Principal Planner (ret) Santa Clara County
Rod Diridon Sr, County Supervisor, District 4, ret
Gloria Duffy, former President, Guadalupe River Park Conservancy
Kathy Sutherland, Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority Board – District 4

Edward Rooks, Wildlife Artist

Carolyn Straub, District 7
Stephen McHenry, District 7

Shani Kleinhaus, PhD, Environmental Advocate, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
Katja Irvin, AICP, Guadalupe Group Conservation Chair, Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter
Alice Kaufman, Policy and Advocacy Director, Green Foothills
Deb Kramer Executive Director Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful

Lawrence Ames, Chair, District 6 Neighborhood Leaders Group on behalf of D6NL

Letters Batch 2 of 3

<https://sanjose.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=13951020&GUID=208EFAAA-3889-44A4-89A9-236ABA2217D8>

Davide Vieira, Friends of Five Wounds Trail

Eve Meier, volunteer for Santa Clara Valley Bird Alliance

Diane McCoy

Juan Estrada, San Jose United

Jean Dresden, on behalf of Yes On SJ Parks

Rudy Flores, Former Chair PRNS Commission

Protect Our Parks Petitions—over 40 persons

David Poeschel, D10

Bill Rankin, on behalf of Save Our Trails

Letters Batch 3 of 3

<https://sanjose.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=13952062&GUID=91B1C036-1ED1-442A-B032-5652CECC66DB>

Alie Victorine, President District 7 Leadership Group on behalf of D7 NL

Protect Our Parks Petitions—16 persons