

**MINUTES OF THE  
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2020**

*Consistent with the California Governor's Executive Order No. N-29-20, Resolution No. 79450 from the City of San José and the Santa Clara County Health Officer's March 16, 2020 Shelter in Place Order, the City Council meeting was not physically open to the public. Public comments were accepted via eComment, email, by phone/Webinar or online.*

The Committee meeting was teleconferenced from remote locations and convened at 1:32 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, Chair; Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco, Vice Chair; Councilmember Pam Foley, Councilmember Maya Esparza, Councilmember Sergio Jimenez, Members.

**ABSENT:** All Present.

**STAFF:** Senior Deputy City Attorney Karin Murabito; Director of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, Jon Cicirelli; City Clerk Toni Taber, and Deputy City Clerk Ruth Krantz.

**(B) REVIEW OF WORK PLAN**

None provided.

**(C) CONSENT CALENDAR**

None provided.

**(D) REPORTS TO COMMITTEE**

**1. College and Career Readiness. (Library)**

Adrian McBride, SJ Aspires; Elizabeth Nolan, SJ Engage; Monique Melchor, work2future; Rosemary van Lare, SJPL Works; Ellen Loebl, Partners in Reading; and Israel Canjura, PRNS provided a presentation on the success of San José Engage, San José Aspires, Career Online High School, Working Scholars, SJPL Works, and San José Works.

#### **D. 1. (Cont'd.)**

Public Comment: (1) Blair Beekman offered appreciation for the efforts of staff and urged inclusivity for lower income families. (2) Ed Alvarez noted accomplishments of the Latino Education Advancement Foundation and asked the City and partners to join in their efforts and increase investments to assist low-income students. (3) Caller “5140” suggested the option of trade school and community college for a practical education.

Discussion continued regarding job placement opportunities, exposing children to opportunities, providing a greater impact on ethnic groups and partnering with stakeholders.

Library Director Jill Bourne and staff responded to questions. Director of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Angel Rios, Jr. spoke to a strategy of partnering with influential leaders in the community and urged their openness to offering opportunities for youth.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Pam Foley, seconded by Councilmember Maya Esparza and carried unanimously, the staff report on the development of College and Career Readiness Quality Standards was accepted for full Council consideration and adoption at the December 1, 2020 City Council meeting, and the update on the College and Career Readiness Initiatives was accepted. (5-0.)

#### **2. Neighborhood Center Partner Program Update. (Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services)**

Andrea Flores Shelton, Interim Deputy Director; Hal Spangenberg, Interim Division Manager; and Pauline Khek, Interim Recreation Supervisor provided an update on the Neighborhood Center Partner Program, including an Assessment and Maintenance of Facilities, inventory and COVID Pandemic response.

Public Comments: Blair Beekman spoke to the intrusion of surveillance technology and civil protections being availed to all.

Councilmember Sylvia Arenas asked that consideration be given to utilizing community centers, especially with impacts from COVID, with emphasis on underserved community’s economic recovery such as the Gardner Community, to bring back community centers that are essential to our neighborhoods, assisting with services such as food distribution and distance learning.

Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco asked that partnerships be enhanced to serve the community, such as those serving the Alum Rock neighborhood and MACLA, with private partnership investments and non-profits explored.

Director of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, Jon Cicirelli responded to questions and noted that they are trying to match services with neighborhood needs. Staff noted the RFQ in question would need to go out in January.

## **D. 2. (Cont'd.)**

Director of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Angel Rios, Jr. spoke on coordinating responses to these issues prior to the budget process as noted below in “Action”.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Maya Esparza, seconded by Councilmember Sylvia Arenas and carried unanimously, the status report on the Neighborhood Center Partner Program was accepted, including direction to staff to find opportunities to leverage limited resources at existing community centers and communities with the greatest need, enhancing other programs as noted during Committee discussion; with staff to provide a report for the March NSE meeting, including an information memo and further discussion prior to that with budget proposals/implications of re-use contingent on results of the RFQ. (5-0.)

### **3. 2019-2020 Status Reports on Parks and Community Facilities Development Capital Improvement Program. (Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services)**

Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, Nicolle Burnham, and PRNS Division Manager Yves Zsutty provided a presentation and responded to questions.

Public Comments: Speaker “5140” advocated for more money for the Rose Garden.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco, seconded by Councilmember Sylvia Arenas and carried unanimously, the Annual Report on Park Impact Ordinance and Parkland Dedication Ordinance Fees for 2019-2020; and Annual Status Report on Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services’ Capital Improvement Program were accepted. (3-0-2. Absent: Foley, Esparza.)

### **4. 2019-2020 Animal Care and Services Annual Report. (Public Works)**

Jay Terrado, Deputy Director Public Works, Mallory Kinsman Field Operations Supervisor and Lorance Gomez, Shelter Operations Supervisor offered a presentation, covering field and shelter services/operations.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco, seconded by Councilmember Sergio Jimenez and carried unanimously, the Annual report on the ongoing operations, policies and programs of the Animal Care and Services Division of the Department of Public Works was accepted. (5-0.)

## **OPEN FORUM**

Blair Beekman spoke to the COVID crisis and urged everyone to use caution and adhere to safe practices.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Sylvia Arenas adjourned the meeting at 4:23 p.m.

*Approved via email*

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Councilmember Sylvia Arenas  
Neighborhood Services and Education Committee

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