



**CITY OF ALBANY
PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE COMMISSION**

2019–2021 Work Plan DRAFT

Recommended by the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Commission: Date: March 14, 2019

Approved by the City Council: April 15, 2019

Background

The following work plan identifies recent accomplishments, and priority work items for the upcoming work plan period. The work plan includes items identified as priority projects within the City Council's Strategic Plan. The Parks, Recreation & Open Space Commission shall review the work plan each year in January to identify accomplishments and ensure continued focus on completing work plan items. Work plans are presented to the Council every two years, and if a change is needed to the work plan outside of that schedule, the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Commission shall submit a "Request for Amendment to Advisory Body Work Plan" Form for review by the City Council.

Committee Purpose

It shall be the duty of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Commission of the City to advise the City Council regarding all matters of public recreation and all matters pertaining to parks, open space including creeks, Albany Waterfront Park, and Albany Hill, street trees, parking strips, parkways, squares and similar area within the City. Such Commission shall endeavor to formulate a parks, recreation and open space master plan, select and propose to the Council sites for playgrounds, make recommendations for acquisition and maintenance of playgrounds for children and recreation centers for the public, and generally advise the City Council in matters connected with parks, recreation and open space in general. It shall be a function of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Commission of the City to promote and encourage among various public and private agencies and individuals the development of such recreational facilities and programs as shall benefit all citizens of the City.

Recent Initiatives and Accomplishments

- Reviewed 37 Street Tree Removal Applications
- Completed Phase I of Peggy Thomsen Pierce St. Park: Opening of Park March 1, 2018
- Ohlone Greenway and Sidewalk Project completed: Opening Ceremony November 21, 2017
- Bus Stop Parklet completed: Opening Ceremony February 25, 2018
- Memorial Park Tot Lot and patio improvements completed July 2017
- Memorial Park bathroom renovation designs approved and now under construction (completion end of April 2019)
- Hosted Community Workshop to prioritize Albany Hill Access & Trail Improvements
- Albany Hill Access and Trail Project designs approved
- Dartmouth Tot Lot Improvements completed November 2017
- CPRS Award of Excellence Regional Class 1: Ohlone Greenway Improvement Project, Excellence in Park Planning & Development
- 2018 CPRS District 3 Annual Awards Program, Outstanding Facility or Park: Bus Stop Parklet
- Installed new gender-neutral bathroom signs July 2017
- Fair Play Act (AB 2404) Policy approved by Council
- Completed biennial Review of Street Tree Removal Policy



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- Reviewed City Approved Street Tree List
- Reviewed periodic Albany Hill Vegetation Management and Hazardous Tree Removal Plans
- Coordinated with Arts Committee on funding and selection of 2wo Ohlone Greenway Public Art Projects

2019 – 2021 Policy Review and Initiatives

City Council Strategic Plan Items: Maximize and Improve Parks and Open Space

Objective 1: Enhance Parks

- Conduct analysis for turf/grass field and opportunities for enhanced landscaping at Peggy Thomsen Pierce Street Park
- Assure that benches are available as needed for seniors and others who may be in need to have opportunities to sit while using parks

Objective 2: Enhance Open Space

- Review prioritized list of projects on Albany Hill to include in the CIP program
- Review Forest Management Plan for Albany Hill including fuel load analysis
- Program and implement final Measure R projects and provide final accounting for that Measure
- Annually review CIP and maintenance projects on creeks
- Review maintenance schedule and plans for enhancement through programming of Measure M funds
- Investigate potential for open space use of Caltrans Right-of-Way by inventorying existing Caltrans right-of-way and discussing opportunities with Caltrans
- Identify funding to update Parks & Recreation Master Plan

Objective 3: Create Cultural Facilities and Opportunities

- Review existing public and private memorials, honors, and other installations on public land; plan and implement relocations and improvements as appropriate
- Create policies concerning private memorials and honors on public lands
- Investigate Veterans Building Retrofit Funding Options and report findings to the Council

Other Work Plan Items:

Moved from previous Work Plan:

- Review Memorial Park pathway lighting designs and complete installation
- Review designs and construct Ocean View Park Bocce Courts
- Complete analysis of potential Dog Park locations in Albany and present findings to council
- Review Albany Hill Access & Trail Projects (Including bridge & interpretive signage)
- Review park signage and establish uniform signage program for Albany Parks
- Continue to support Peggy Thomsen Pierce Street Park improvements
- Investigate relocation of the community garden



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- Prepare Mt Bike Skills Park proposal for Caltrans, review designs and construct park

New Work Plan Items:

Priority 1:

- Support and provide input into a City Master Tree Plan
- Review and implement previous Memorial Park improvement designs (including entry, bike racks additional seating)
- Engage the community in planning of Key Route BLVD median improvements
- Establish Dog Park(s) in Albany (Based upon Sub-Committee analysis/Council review)
- Convert Ocean View Park tennis courts to Pickleball courts
- Add cement table tennis to Ocean View Park
- Update Parks & Recreation Master Plan
- Support collaboration opportunities with non-profit organizations on park projects and programming
- Pursue public bathrooms on Ohlone Greenway

Priority 2:

- Work with Urban Forester on a Tree Removal Education Campaign for homeowners
- Review previous Senior Center expansion project designs and investigate funding opportunities
- Develop Monarch Habitat Assessment
- Support/review designs of non-traditional parks (Pocket parks, parklets, etc.)
- Convert Terrace Park 5-12 playground from sand to Fibar and engage the community in the selection of a new playground feature

Ongoing:

- Review Street Tree Removal applications
- Annual review status of AB 2404
- Biennial review of the Street Tree Removal Policy
- Receive presentations on Waterfront and creek related items
- Continue to support implementation of the Albany Hill Creekside Park Master Plan
- Receive biannual park maintenance reports