



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

2021 – 2023 Work Plan

Recommended by the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Commission: April 8, 2021

Approved by the City Council: May 3, 2021

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 19 Street Tree Removal Applications
- Reviewed proposed locations for additional benches and recommended additional seating in the dog park.
- Reviewed prioritized list of Albany Hill projects and provided input.
- Received annual update on maintenance activities and current City projects pertaining to parks, recreation, and open space.
- Reviewed Memorial Park improvement plans
- Formed Dog Park subcommittee and presented findings to Council in September 2019. Council approved recommendation to transition Section B in Memorial Park into a dog park.
- Recommended the inclusion of permanent pickleball courts at Ocean View Park
- Provided input on the development of a Monarch Habitat Assessment.
- Reviewed Street Tree Removal Policy
- Received update on vegetation management activities on Albany Hill, waterfront and creeks
- Received update on AB2404 status
- Provided input on the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan Request for Proposals draft



2021 – 2023 Policy Review and Initiatives

1. Provide input on the update to the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*.
2. Provide input on priority project(s) for the use of Prop 68 funds.
3. Provide input on interpretive park signage for Albany parks when presented to Commission.
4. Provide input on a standardized signage program for Albany parks when presented to Commission.
5. Provide input on Tree Preservation Education Campaign for homeowners when presented to Commission.
6. Provide input on City Master Tree Plan when presented to Commission
7. Research the feasibility of a dog park for small dogs and/or other locations within the City.
8. Evaluate the need and feasibility for a public bathroom on the Ohlone Greenway.
9. Receive presentation on Forest Management Plan for Albany Hill including fuel load analysis when completed.
10. Provide recommendations for enhancing parks and open space, including Albany Waterfront Park, creeks and Albany Hill, and creating cultural facilities and opportunities.
11. Support collaboration opportunities with non-profit organizations on park projects and programming.
12. Review Street Tree Removal applications (quarterly) and Street Tree Removal Policy (every two years).
13. Continue to support implementation of the Albany Hill Creekside Park Master Plan.
14. Investigate relocation of the community garden.
15. Receive presentations on:
 - a. Maintenance activities, current City projects (biennially) and Measure M funding as it pertains to parks and open space (annually)
 - b. Vegetation management activities on Albany Hill, waterfront and creeks (annually)
 - c. AB2404 status (annually)

*Items included within the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan Update:

16. Provide input on the inventory and policies on the relocation and improvements of existing public and private memorials, honors, and other installations on public lands.
17. Provide input on recreational enhancements at Peggy Thomsen Pierce Street Park.
18. Provide input on recreational activities at all parks including pickleball, bocce, Terrace Park Playground, bike park, etc.
19. Investigate potential for open space use of Caltrans Right-of-Way and continue discussion opportunities for a bike park.
20. Investigate opportunities for improvements to the Key Route Blvd median beyond the Complete Streets Plan.