



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA  
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, September 23, 2020  
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Nichol Clark called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners and Staff Present**

Chair Nichol Clark  
Vice Chair Kathy McGill  
Commissioner Jacob Lesner-Buxton  
Commissioner Beebe Longstreet  
Commissioner Andria Martinez Cohen  
Commissioner Roger Perry (departed 6:10)  
Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary  
Urban Forest Superintendent Nathan Slack  
Project Planner Justin Van Mullem  
Community Development Project Planner Melissa Hetrick  
Administrative Assistant Rose Nevarez

**Commissioners Absent**

Commissioner Cory Baker

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

- A. Changes To The Agenda – Item 7 to be taken before Item 6
- B. Written Communications - None
- C. Public Comment - None
- D. Commissioner Committee Assignment Reports

Commissioner Lesner-Buxton attended and reported on the Youth Council meeting.

Commissioner Martinez Cohen attended and reported on the Creeks Advisory Committee meeting.

Commissioners Longstreet and Perry attended the De la Guerra Plaza Revitalization Design Subcommittee meeting.

Vice Chair McGill attended and reported on the PARC Foundation Board meeting.

Chair Clark attended the PARC Foundation Board and the Street Tree Advisory Committee meetings.

E. Commission And Staff Communications - None

### **CEREMONIAL ITEMS:**

#### **1. Subject: Employee Recognition – Service Award Pins**

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary recognized Engin Tekince, Pool Technician, for 10 years of service, and Charles Christman, Senior Tree Trimmer, for 20 years of service.

### **CONSENT ITEMS:**

#### **2. Subject: Summary of Council Actions – For Information (Attachment)**

The Commission received the report.

#### **3. Subject: Minutes – For Action (Attachment)**

Recommendation: That the Commission waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 26, 2020.

#### **Motion:**

**Commissioner Perry / Martinez Cohen to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 26, 2020.**

#### **Vote:**

**Unanimous voice vote (5/0/1) Abstain: Longstreet**

### **STREET TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ITEMS**

Any action of the Parks and Recreation Commission made pursuant to Municipal Code Chapter 15.20, Tree Planting and Maintenance or 15.24, Preservation of Trees, may be appealed to the City Council within ten days, pursuant to provisions of Section 1.30.050 of the Municipal Code.

#### **4. Subject: Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendations – For Action (Attachments)**

#### **Documents:**

- Staff Report dated September 23, 2020
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Urban Forest Superintendent Nathan Slack
- Maury Treman, Street Tree Advisory Committee Chair (Item 4.C.1)
- Marilyn Goldman (Item 4.C.1)

Recommendation: That the Commission:

A. Approve the following street tree removal request:

1. 3121 Calle Fresno – (2) *Washingtonia robusta*, Mexican Fan Palm (*street trees*) and (1) *Washingtonia robusta*, Mexican Fan Palm (*setback tree*) – Elizabeth Murphy

The Commission received the report, their questions were answered, and the following action was taken:

**Motion:**

**Commissioner Longstreet / Perry to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee and approve the removals on the condition 2 replacement Guadalupe Fan Palms are planted in the setback, as pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090, the character of the neighborhood with respect to forestation will not be materially affected.**

**Vote:**

**Unanimous voice vote (6/0)**

B. Approve the following setback tree removal request:

1. 1033 Laguna St. – (4) *Pinus canariensis*, Canary Island Pine – Bill Mellett

The Commission received the report, their questions were answered, and the following action was taken:

**Motion:**

**Commissioner McGill / Martinez Cohen to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee and approve the removals, as pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090, the principles of good forest management will be best served by the proposed removals.**

**Vote:**

**Unanimous voice vote (6/0)**

C. Deny the following setback tree removal request:

1. 2934 Lomita Rd. – *Cedrus deodara*, Deodar Cedar – Marilyn Goldman

The Commission received the report, their questions were answered, and the following action was taken:

**Motion:**

**Commissioner Longstreet / Martinez Cohen to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and deny the removal without prejudice to allow for the exploration of other options to improve accessibility, as pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090, no findings for removal were identified.**

**Vote:**

**Failed voice vote (3/3) Nay: Lesner-Buxton/McGill/Perry**

D. Approve the following changes to the Street Tree Master Plan:

1. 200 block of W. Pueblo St. – request for co-designation – Staff

The Commission received the report and the following action was taken:

**Motion:**

**Commissioner Clark / McGill to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and approve Coast Live Oak as co-designations for the 200 block of W. Pueblo St.**

**Vote:**

**Unanimous voice vote (6/0)**

2. All of Kowalski Ave. – request for co-designation – Staff

The Commission received the report and the following action was taken:

**Motion:**

**Commissioner Longstreet / Clark to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and approve Marina Madrone and Brazilian Cedarwood as co-designations for all of Kowalski Ave.**

**Vote:**

**Unanimous voice vote (6/0)**

3. All of San Miguel Ave. – request for co-designation – STAC

The Commission received the report and the following action was taken:

**Motion:**

**Commissioner Martinez Cohen / Longstreet to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and approve Sydney Red Gum and Silk Tree as co-designations for the 1200-1300 blocks of San Miguel Ave., and California Buckeye and African Tulip Tree as co-designations for the 1400-1500 blocks of San Miguel Ave.**

**Vote:**  
**Unanimous voice vote (6/0)**

## **ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS**

### **5. Subject: Director's Report – For Information (Attachment)**

Documents:

-Staff Report dated September 23, 2020

Speaker:

-Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a presentation on the status of the various Parks and Recreation Department initiatives and activities.

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary reported on Summer Camps and Fall After School Camps, and an MOU with the Ventura County Resource Conservation District to support their Monarch butterfly overwintering restoration program.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

### **6. Subject: Ortega Park Master Plan – For Action (Attachments)**

Documents:

-Staff Report dated September 23, 2020  
-Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

-Project Planner Justin Van Mullem  
-Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary

Recommendation: That the Commission:

- A. Receive a presentation on proposed improvements to implement the Ortega Master Plan; and
- B. Make the following findings pursuant to Santa Barbara Municipal Code Section 28.37.025:
  1. That the proposed park and recreation improvements are appropriate or necessary for the benefit of the community and visitors;
  2. That the proposed park and recreation facilities, including synthetic turf sports field, pool, skate park, multi-generational activity zone, playground, family and community gathering area, lighting, restroom, parking, and associated landscaping, will be compatible with the character of the neighborhood;

3. That the total area of the site and the setbacks of all facilities from the property lines and street are sufficient, in view of the physical character of the land, proposed development and neighborhood, to avoid significant negative effects on surrounding properties;
4. That the intensity of park use is appropriate and compatible with the character of the neighborhood;
5. That the proposed park and recreation facilities are compatible with the scenic character of the City; and
6. That the proposed structures or buildings are compatible with the neighborhood in terms of size, bulk, and scale or location; and

C. Recommend that the Planning Commission approve the Ortega Master Plan Project.

Project Planner Justin Van Mullem gave background and an overview of the project, including budget. He reported on the proposed parking, lighting, multi-sport artificial turf field, aquatic facility, playground, family picnic area, and multi-generational recreation zone containing a skate park, basketball court, cornhole, bocce ball, ping pong, and game tables. Project Planner Van Mullem then discussed tree removals and proposed replacement trees and other plantings. Next steps include going before the Planning Commission in November and the Architectural Board of Review in December. Once approvals are received, the project will advance to the construction drawing phase.

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary added that project construction is proposed to occur in phases, with field improvements the highest priority and remaining areas completed as funds are secured.

**Motion:**

**Commissioner Longstreet / Clark that the Ortega Park Master Plan meets the needs of the community; and**

**To make the following findings pursuant to Santa Barbara Municipal Code Section 28.37.025:**

**That the proposed park and recreation improvements are appropriate or necessary for the benefit of the community and visitors;**

**That the proposed park and recreation facilities, including synthetic turf sports field, pool, skate park, multi-generational activity zone, playground, family and community gathering area, lighting, restroom, parking, and associated landscaping, will be compatible with the character of the neighborhood;**

**That the total area of the site and the setbacks of all facilities from the property lines and street are sufficient, in view of the physical character of the land, proposed development and neighborhood, to avoid significant negative effects on surrounding properties;**

**That the intensity of park use is appropriate and compatible with the character of the neighborhood;**

**That the proposed park and recreation facilities are compatible with the scenic character of the City; and**

**That the proposed structures or buildings are compatible with the neighborhood in terms of size, bulk, and scale or location;**

**And to recommend that the Planning Commission approve the Ortega Master Plan Project.**

**Vote:**

**Unanimous voice vote (5/0)**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**7. Subject: Draft Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan – For Action (Attachments)**

Documents:

- Staff Report dated September 23, 2020
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Community Development Project Planner Melissa Hetrick

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a presentation and provide comments on the Draft Sea-Level Rise Adaptation Plan. Given the size of the plan, staff recommends that comments focus on the recommended near-term actions outlined on pages ES-23 through ES-26 of the Executive Summary.

Community Development Project Planner Melissa Hetrick gave an overview of the Draft Adaptation Plan, recommended actions and considerations, and next steps, including information on public outreach and a list of near-term actions most relevant to Parks and Recreation.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:40 p.m., with no further business to be addressed by the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill E. Zachary  
Parks and Recreation Director