



## **\*Special Meeting of the Oakland Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission**

### **Minutes Wednesday, October 14, 2020, 4:30 P.M. Zoom Teleconference**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

2. ROLL CALL: 4:30 P.M.

**AIKENS, COLE, DUHE, HA, HOWZE, KOS-READ, MOORE, REILLY, SMITH,  
TORRES, WOLFSON**

**Present – 9:** Commissioners Aikens, Cole, Duhe, Howze, Kos-Read, Moore  
Smith, Torres, and Wolfson. **Excused -1:** Commissioner Ha.  
**Absent -1** Commissioner Reilly

3. DISPOSITON OF MINUTES:

**September 16, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** Commissioner Cole entertained a motion to recommend that PRAC approve the September 16, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes. **Moved by:** Commissioner Aikens. **Second by:** Commissioner Duhe. **Vote:** Yes (8): Aikens, Cole, Duhe, Howze, Kos-Read, Smith, Moore. and Wolfson. **Abstained:** 1 – Commissioner Torres. **Motion:** Passed.

4. OPEN FORUM

5. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA:

6. CONSENT NEW BUSINESS:

7. NEW BUSINESS:

**A. Tree Permit Appeal for 863 Vermont Street**

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission reviewed report7A presented by Tod Lawson, Arboricultural Inspector, Oakland Public Works Tree Division.

On November 18, 2019, the Tree Services Division approved tree removal permit ND19-172 for 863 Vermont Ave. After the property inspection, Tree Services approved the

applicant's request for the removal of two black acacia trees and one beefwood tree as requested by the applicant and property owner.

Staff findings cited various structural defects including cracking seams, bark seam bulging, unbalanced canopies, high risk of trunk failure by splitting, dried and splitting stems. And one tree leaning at such an angle as to cause total failure on collapse.

All three trees were recommended for removal under section 12.36.050(A) of the Protected Tree Ordinance.

Applicant:

The applicant asserted that once the trees have been removed, and in keeping with Tree Ordinance 12:36.05(A) requirement to provide drainage, erosion and land stability or windscreen, plans to supplement the area with 5 new trees and 3 to 4 terraces and other vegetation will be installed.

Appellant:

The property owner at 872 Walker Avenue submitted an appeal for Tree permit ND19-172 on November 26, 2019. The appellant cited that both properties are in a landslide area and claimed removal of the trees at the Vernon Avenue address would cause soil erosion and subsequent landslide and considerable damage to the Walker Avenue property located below. It was suggested that young trees would not control soil erosion and must be supplemented. In addition, it was stated that if the trees in question are removed, they must be replaced with mature trees and adequate provisions must be made for drainage. The applicant requested a copy of the drainage plan and that a licensed GEO Tech engineer sign off on the project.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC) Tree Committee toured the site in early March

The Commission inquired about nesting birds and learned that the tree removal would not occur during the spring to fall months. The applicant informed the Commission that there was motivation to have the trees removed between November and December 2020. The tree stumps will be retained through spring or until they dry out.

Staff informed the Commission that the City does not remove trees from private property and recommended that the US Wildlife Fish and Game Office be contacted for additional information on the project.

PRAC Tree Committee members agreed with staff findings regarding the declining health of the trees and the possibility of one falling in the sloped area.

**Motion:** Commissioner Cole entertained a motion to recommend that PRAC agree with the City Tree Division staff assessment to deny the appeal to not remove the trees as cited by the appellant. **Moved by:** Commissioner Moore **Second by:** Commissioner Wolfson. **Vote:** Yes (9): Aikens, Cole, Duhe, Howze, Kos-Read, Moore, Smith, Torres and Wolfson. **Motion:** Passed.

**B. Request For The Parks And Recreation Advisory Commission To Review, Provide Comments, And Recommend Acceptance Of A Gift From Under Armour, In Partnership With Eat. Learn. Play. Foundation, And Project Delivery Partners Connor Sports, And Oakland Artist Hueman, For The Manzanita Recreation Center Outdoor Basketball Court Project**

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission reviewed report 7B by Donte Watson, General Recreation Supervisor from Oakland Parks, Recreation and Youth Development (OPRYD).

Staff from OPRYD requested PRAC approved the request to accept the gift to renovate and enhance the aging outdoor basket courts at the Manzanita Recreation. The scope of the project would include cleaning and patching surface cracks, and installing basketball court surface tiles manufactured by Sports Courts.

Jose Corona representing Eat. Learn. Play Foundation

The Eat. Learn. Play Foundation was established by Steph and Ayesha whose goal is to promote childhood food security and to create safe spaces for children to play.

Eat. Learn. Play. and their Under Armour partners collaborated and sponsored other basketball court projects as well as OPRYD's Town Camp summer program. Mr. Corona informed the PRAC that the Foundations looks forward to creating more opportunities to work on with Director Williams. They have identified local artist, Hueman, to provide minimal artwork for the Manzanita project.

The Commission learned that the proposed gift and upgrade to the Manzanita basketball courts is valued at \$49,000.00 and equitability benefits the community as funding for the work in not in the department's budget.

Staff acknowledge that there will be no ongoing maintenance of the courts and that basic grounds work will be performed by Oakland Public Works (OPW) without burden.

The Commission expressed concern that OPRYD's logo is not represented.

Eat. Learn. Play. offered willingness to work with the design team in incorporating OPRYD's logo on the current and future projects. In addition, the

Commission confirmed that because of the City's position, that project logos do not include Chase Bank. Eat. Learn. Play. acknowledged OPRYD's position and that their

major brand partners are committed to supporting the work in Oakland. Looking forward to a long partnership with the community and the department.

**Motion:** Commissioner Cole entertained a motion to recommend that PRAC approve the staff request to accept the gift to renovate the outdoor basketball courts at Manzanita Recreation Center for the Under Armour, in Partnership with Eat. Learn. Play. **Moved by:** Commissioner Aikens. **Second by:** Commissioner Duhe. **Vote:** Yes (7): Aikens, Cole, Duhe, Howze, Kos-Read, Moore, and Wolfson. Abstained (2) Commissioners Smith and Torres): Motion: Passed.

**C. Information Report and Overview of the 2020 City of Oakland Parks and Recreation Preservation, Litter Reduction, and Homeless Support Act (Measure Q, 2020)**

Measure Q Co-Chairs, John Bliss and Brooke Levin, provided the 7C information report for review by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission.

The Co-Chairs recommended that PRAC evaluate compliance with and provide detailed review and input on three critical elements of Measure Q including: 1) Allocation of Revenue – 64% for parks, 30% for homelessness services, 5% for water quality and 1% toward evaluation and auditing the Measure Q program. 2) Service Deliverables specific to park maintenance, equipment and staffing. 3) Maintenance of Effort allocates 55% of the budget to be used to balance the parks maintenance budget, while 45% may be spent on new or additional landscaping maintenance and recreational services.

Measure Q Co-Chairs announced that Daniel Hamilton from Oakland Public Works (OPW) would be the staff liaison for Measure Q and recommended the PRAC request a presentation from (OPW) in preparation for monitoring Measure Q and the two-year budget due in early spring 2021. The areas suggested to be integrated in the presentation include services related to parks and park assets such as ballfields, facilities, trees, vandalism, repairs, landscaping, clean water and storm water programs.

In addition, it was recommended that PRAC require a monthly update and matrix for hiring to show the progress. Required deliverables cannot be met without new staff.

Regarding financial oversight, Co-Chairs Levin and Bliss recommended the PRAC request a detailed financial and service level analyses from OPW and the Finance department every 6 months for the first 36 months and annually afterward.

To assist with monitoring the Measure Q deliverables and receive community feedback, it was recommended that OPW staff be available at the monthly PRAC meetings.

**Motion:** Commissioner Cole entertained a motion to recommend that PRAC accept the information report and move forward with the requests from the Measure Q Co-Chairs as cited therein. **Moved by:** Commissioner Cole. **Second by:** Commissioner Kos-Reed. **Vote:** Yes (8): Aikens, Cole, Duhe, Howze, Kos-Read, Moore, Smith, and Wolfson. Abstained (1) Commissioner Torres. **Motion:** Passed.

8. PLANNING AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS:
9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT/COMMITTEE AND/OR ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATES:
10. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:
11. CONTINUATION OF OPEN FORUM:
12. ADJOURNMENT: 6:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ J. Nicholas Williams  
J. Nicholas Williams  
Secretary

/s/ Diane L. Boyd  
Diane L. Boyd  
Recording Secretary

**Next Meeting:**  
***Wednesday, November 18, 2020***  
***TeleConference***