



# TOWN OF LOS GATOS

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## PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2016

6:00 PM REGULAR MEETING  
RJ BRYANT SERVICE CENTER  
41 MILES AVENUE, LOS GATOS

### AGENDA

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 3, 2016 MEETING MINUTES (Attachment 1)
4. VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS
  - A. Public Speakers (*Three minute time limit per speaker for subjects not agendized.*)
    - i. Written Communication (Attachment 2)
  - B. Commissioners (information only, not for discussion)
  - C. Introduction of new/re-appointed commissioners
5. COMMISSION MATTERS
  - A. Chairperson Report
  - B. Commission Changes
  - C. Review Mission and Work Plan
    - ~~i. Survey Questionnaire~~
    - ~~ii. Outreach Activities Accomplished~~
    - ~~iii. Articles & Social Media~~
    - iv. Future Activities
  - D. Safety Profiles (Attachment 3)
  - E. Nominations/Appointment of Parks Commission Chair and Vice-Chair
  - F. Nominations/Appointment of Beautification Committee Member
  - G. Nominations/Appointment of Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission Member
  - H. Jim Sugai
  - I. Water Update (Attachment 4)

**6. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Informational Items**

- A. Park Operations
- B. Capital Improvement Projects - FY 16/17
- C. Events
- D. Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP)

**7. COMMISSION/COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**

- A. Beautification Committee (Corenson)
- B. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (Gordon)

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Next Regular Meeting: Monday, February 6, 2017 – 41 Miles Avenue, Los Gatos

Attachments:

- 1) Minutes of Meeting – October 3, 2016
- 2) Written Communication
- 3) Safety Profiles
- 4) Water Usage

**In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Parks and Public Works Department at (408) 399-5770. Notification 48 hours before the meeting will enable the Town to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [29 CFR § 35.102-35.104]**



# TOWN OF LOS GATOS

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## PARKS COMMISSION MEETING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2016

6:00 PM REGULAR MEETING  
RJ BRYANT SERVICE CENTER  
41 MILES AVENUE, LOS GATOS

### MINUTES

1. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The Parks Commission Regular meeting was called to order at 6:20 p.m. by **Chair Fox**.

2. **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Chair Fox, Vice-Chair Buncic, Commissioners Corenson, Gordon, Scott, Tavana, Clemm and Zepecki

**Absent:** Commissioner Deloumi

**Staff:** Matt Morley, Director of Parks and Public Works  
Steve Regan, Parks and Public Works Maintenance Superintendent  
Stefanie Hockemeyer, Recording Secretary

3. **APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 1, 2016 MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Motion made by **Commissioner Corenson** to approve the August 1, 2016 Meeting minutes. **Seconded** by **Commissioner Clemm**.

**VOTE:** Ayes: 8 / Absent: 1 (Deloumi)

4. **VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Public Speakers (*Three minute time limit per speaker for subjects not agendized.*)

None.

A. Commissioners (information only, not for discussion)

Commissioner Buncic attended a meeting and provided a recap of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District's proposal to allow on-leash dog access to the El Sereno Open Space Preserve.

Commissioner Scott commended Commissioner Gordon for her efforts at the July 4<sup>th</sup> booth.

**5. COMMISSION MATTERS**

A. Chairperson Report

Chair Fox asked staff of the status of the Veteran's Memorial. Mr. Morley provided an update.

Chair Fox provided feedback he received from residents regarding the traffic congestion during drop-off times for soccer at Shannon Road at Blossom Hill Park.

B. Commission Changes

Mr. Morley discussed the upcoming Commission changes and provided a recap on the Policy discussion.

C. Review Mission and Work Plan

- ~~i. Survey Questionnaire~~
- ~~ii. Outreach Activities Accomplished~~
- iii. Articles & Social Media
- iv. Future Activities

Mr. Morley provided information on the float for the Holiday Parade on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

D. Safety Profiles

Mr. Morley clarified what Commissioners can identify in parks to review/capture to create a user's view of what is happening in the parks, which staff may not see on a daily basis, i.e., paving, lighting, etc. This will help to create themes which may be provided to Town Council to include in the capital project perspective.

**6. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Informational Items**

A. Park Operations

Mr. Regan provided an update on the turf rehab at Oak Meadow Park. The Town Plaza will receive turf maintenance prior to the tree lighting in December and be re-sodded in early 2017.

B. Capital Improvement Projects - FY 16/17

Mr. Regan provided an update on the Blossom Hill Park projects:

- Tennis courts resurfacing
- Backstop replacement
- Snack shack

C. Events

Previously discussed in 5C.

D. Traffic and Parking around Schools

<http://www.losgatosca.gov/1093/Safe-Routes-to-School>

Mr. Morley provided information about the new non-profit status of the organization.

E. Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP)

Mr. Morley commented that the BPMP is still in progress, and is anticipated to be brought forward to Council in January 2017.

**7. COMMISSION/COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**

A. Beautification Committee

Commissioner Corensen commented on the highly grown thistles on trails that the Committee volunteered to trim before the first heavy rains.

B. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission

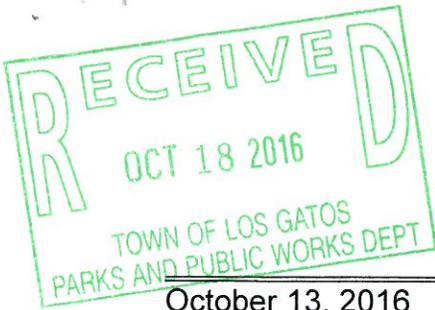
Commissioner Gordon provided an update.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: 6:00 p.m., Monday, December 5, 2016 – 41 Miles Avenue.

**In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Parks and Public Works Department at (408) 399-5770. Notification 48 hours before the meeting will enable the Town to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [29 CFR § 35.102-35.104]**



*Clark A. Cardoza*  
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*Campbell, Ca. 95008*

Ph.: (408) 761-5425    FAX: (866) 623-0192

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October 13, 2016

Parks & Recreation Commission  
City of Campbell  
70 N. First Street  
Campbell, Ca. 95008

Parks Commission  
Town of Los Gatos  
110 E. Main St  
Los Gatos, Ca. 95030

RE: Los Gatos Creek Trail

Dear Friends,

I am an avid runner. I lived in Los Gatos for all of the 1980's relocating to Almaden Valley in the early 90's, and my wife and I recently moved to Campbell where we can once again easily enjoy the Los Gatos Creek Trail.

But this is not the trail I remember from the Reagan years. Back then it was little used except by serious runners and it wasn't even paved for most of the Campbell portions of it.

The reason I am writing is because every time we run the trail I see easily improved upon dangerous situations and I say to myself that I must write to the City (and I am not a letter writer at all) and voice my concern. But then I never do. This week, however, I saw a woman struck by a speeding bicycle; so this is where I think I need to get involved, or at a minimum, make sure you know the dangers and the lack of rule following or enforcement.

Here is what I see on a near daily basis: Bicycles riding too fast; people walking in large groups spread-out with no regard for their surroundings, dog runners, dog cyclists, people pushing strollers two abreast, reckless skaters, people casting fishing lines from under the bridge north of the dog park, people with children and bicycles stopped sideways in the trail. People crossing the trail from their running or walking lane without looking behind them first, and many more unsafe activities and practices which I will simply call "people being oblivious to what's going on around them".

You can't correct all of this, but there are a couple of things you can and should do. Most importantly, post bicycle speed limits and randomly enforce them, particularly on weekend. Someone on a road bike in full racing gear has no business on such a heavily trafficked trail. If you started handing out citations, that activity would end in a short minute.

RE: Los Gatos Creek Trail  
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Post the rules of the trail, and again, randomly enforce them. Los Gatos has a no dog runners rule in Vasona, so why do I see dog runners there almost daily? I see one guy who has his dog literally tied to his waist, exercising zero control over the animal. The dog cyclists are even more dangerous. You have the rules, you need to enforce them for the safety of the public.

Most everyone else, you can't really do much about. But you could post general safety tips and rules along the trail at varying intervals. Particularly near the dam and near the dog park. These two locations have blind turns and narrow lanes, respectively. There are two more dangerous blind turns just north of the Lark underpass. People should be encouraged not to stop suddenly on blind turns and to stay to the right within their lane.

And finally, in Almaden we had a lovely creek trail, you probably know it. It was kept clean (something Campbell does better than Los Gatos), it has a very nice running lane (yes, I know, everything costs money), and it has Call Boxes. Maybe a call box is obsolete with cell phones everywhere, but at least in the event of trouble it gives authorities an exact position fix on you. Just something to think about.

A woman was killed in Almaden by a dog rider. Don't wait for someone to die on your trail. Signage is cheap. Patrols and citations could pay for themselves, and you should only need them on a limited basis.

Thank you for your courtesy. And frankly, thank you for having such a lovely trail to use. It is one of the things we enjoy about our new home in Campbell (no offense Los Gatos, but you were just too expensive for us).

Most sincerely,

Clark A. Cardoza

# Parks Commission Safety Assessment

November 2016

	Paved Pathways	Unpaved Paths	Parking	Shrubs & Trees	Turf	Picnic Area	Play Area	Restroom	Lights	Courts	Park Average	Need more or needs attention
Bachman	2	n/a	n/a	3	1	1	3	n/a	3	3	2.3	Vegetation infill; benches
Creekside	5	n/a	4.5	5	5	4	4	4	5	n/a	4.6	Shade; benches; trash cans
Blossom Hill	5	4	4	5	4	4	5	4	5	3	4.3	Trash cans; retaining wall
Plaza	4	n/a	n/a	4	4	n/a	4	n/a	4	n/a	4.0	Concrete tripping hazards
Fairview	5	4	1	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	5	n/a	3.6	Pruning
Worcester	3	3	3	4	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3.0	Uneven paths; grafitti
Bel Gatos	3	2.5	5	3.5	2	4	5	4	5	n/a	3.8	Uneven trails; pruning, grafitti
Live Oak Manor	3	n/a	n/a	3	4	4	3	n/a	4	3	3.4	Off Leash Dogs,
Novitiate	n/a	2	n/a	1	3	n/a	5	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.8	Brush clearing; trail maintenance.
Oak Meadow											#DIV/0!	Info Pending
Oak Hill Play Lot											#DIV/0!	Info Pending
Rinconada											#DIV/0!	Info Pending
Category Average	3.8	3.1	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.2	4.1	4.0	4.4	3.0		

This safety review was completed by the Parks Commission for each of the listed parks. The goal of the review was to identify safety issues from the perspective of the park user. The information will be utilized through the Town Council Priority Setting process and annual budget process.

# Town of Los Gatos Water

