



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Minutes

Parks & Recreation Commission

07/14/2025

7:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting
Sparacino Conference Room - City Hall East Wing
1500 Warburton Avenue
Santa Clara, CA 95050

The City of Santa Clara is conducting the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting in a hybrid manner (in-person and a method for the public to participate remotely).

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://santaclaraca.zoom.us/j/89140287145?pwd=vxTpbZL37PSa9tyNRsapnbNKFauJJP.1>

Meeting ID: 891 4028 7145

Passcode: 863597

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Chu at 7:00 PM.

Present 5 - Chair Maureen Chu, Commissioner Derek DeMarco, Commissioner Eversley Forte, Commissioner Vikas Gupta, and Commissioner Edward A. Souza

Absent 2 - Commissioner Dana Caldwell, and Commissioner Brittany Ricketts

A motion was made by Commissioner DeMarco and seconded by Commissioner Forte to excuse Commissioners Ricketts and Caldwell from the July 14, 2025 Parks & Recreation Commission meeting.

Aye: 5 - Chair Chu, Commissioner DeMarco, Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Gupta, and Commissioner Souza

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Caldwell, and Commissioner Ricketts

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. [25-711](#) Action on the Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes of the June 9, 2025, Meeting

Recommendation: Approve the Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes of the June 9, 2025, Meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner DeMarco and seconded by Commissioner Gupta to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2025 Parks & Recreation meeting.

Aye: 5 - Chair Chu, Commissioner DeMarco, Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Gupta, and Commissioner Souza

Excused: 2 - Commissioner Caldwell, and Commissioner Ricketts

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

A member of the public spoke regarding finding a large amount of tennis balls in the creek and urged staff to build a higher fence near the ball wall at the Tennis Center in Central Park.

This item was referred to staff.

GENERAL BUSINESS

2. [25-637](#) Action on the Proposed Schematic Design for the New Public Park at 2518 Mission College Boulevard (Irvine Company)

Recommendation: Recommend that the City Council approve the proposed Schematic Design for the New Public Park at 2518 Mission College Blvd.

A motion was made by Commissioner Forte and seconded by Commissioner DeMarco that City Council approve the proposed schematic design for the new public park at 2518 Mission College Boulevard

Aye: 5 - Chair Chu, Commissioner DeMarco, Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Gupta, and Commissioner Souza

Excused: 2 - Commissioner Caldwell, and Commissioner Ricketts

3. [25-712](#) Status Update on the Progress Made on the FY 2025/26 Parks & Recreation Commission's Work Plan Goals

Recommendation: Discuss and develop Parks & Recreation Commission Work Plan Goals and Activities for FY 2025/26.

The Commission reviewed the work plan. No action was taken on this item.

STAFF REPORT**Deputy Director Dale Seale**

The Placer AI agreement is in its final stages of preparation, and we should have access to the application within a month or so. The Deputy Director will be retiring Friday 7/18/2025. He served the community for just over 12 years as the Deputy Director. He is very grateful to the Commission as well as the Parks & Recreation staff for the many years of service and excellent work.

Recreation Manager Kim Castro

The Wild Robot will be showing in Central Park Friday July 18, 2025. The concert in the Park on July 25, 2025, will be a salsa band. There will be dancing lessons prior to the concert that evening. Alice in Wonderland will be showing at MCCPA. Street Dance will be on August 1, 2025. Fall Registration will start on July 22, 2025. Recreation Manager Castro reminded the Commission that they will soon need to decide on a tree lighter for the Holiday Tree Lighting event. Recreation manager Castro also recognized Office Specialist III Sandy Le's last day on Friday July 18, 2025. Her excellent work and kindness will be missed.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Commissioner DeMarco: The Commissioner visited Westwood Oaks Park and noticed a Police presence. The Commissioner also visited the Senior Center & Fremont Park.

Commissioner Forte

The commissioner attended the July 4th event as well as the Special Olympics at Santa Clara University. He also attended concerts at Mission College and the Juneteenth Festival in San Jose and the one in Santa Clara. Commissioner Forte attended the master Plan Committee Meeting. The Commissioner met with a local walking group and decided to inquire with them regarding feedback they may have regarding the parks.

Commissioner Gupta

Visited Westwood Oaks and expressed how fantastic it looked! The Commissioner did quite a bit of traveling with his family in Canada and took note of their public spaces and public plazas. The Commissioner reported how much open space was freely available and how inviting the environment was to their local community. He recommends getting into contact with their Public Works or Parks Departments to learn more about their general aesthetics and community services.

Commissioner Souza

The Commissioner visited Eddie Souza parks roughly 4 times weekly. The Commissioner also visited Thamien, Plaza, War Memorial and the Senior Center for his fitness class. The Commissioner expressed his love and appreciation for the new Magical Bridge Playground.

Commissioner Chu

Thanked the team for the 4th of July Celebration. Loves the summer programming for her children. Made a recommendation for a Tree Lighter Emily Adorable.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner DeMarco and seconded by Commissioner Gupta to adjourn the July 14, 2025 Parks & Recreation Commission meeting at 8:40 pm

Aye: 5 - Chair Chu, Commissioner DeMarco, Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Gupta, and Commissioner Souza

Excused: 2 - Commissioner Caldwell, and Commissioner Ricketts

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If a member of the public submits a speaker card for any agenda items, their name will appear in the Minutes. If no speaker card is submitted, the Minutes will reflect "Public Speaker."

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