



**City of
Santa Clara**
The Center of What's Possible



**MINUTES OF THE CITY-SCHOOL
LIAISON COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING**

Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at 11:45 a.m.

Members Present:

City of Santa Clara Council (CSC) Committee Members:

Mayor Lisa M. Gillmor

Vice Mayor Raj Chahal

Councilmember Kathy Watanabe

Chief of Police Pat Nikolai

CSC Staff

Assistant City Manager Nadine Nader

Director of Community Development Andrew Crabtree

Recreation Manager Kim Castro

Management Analyst Justin Wasterlain

Assistant to the City Manager Robyn Sahid

Executive Assistant Julie Minot

Santa Clara Unified School District (SCUSD) Present:

Board President Jodi Muirhead

Trustee Albert Gonzalez

Trustee Andrew Ratermann

SCUSD Staff

Superintendent Stella Kemp

Chief Business Official Mark Schiel

Director of Facility Development and Planning Michal Healy

Director of Bond Projects Larry Adams

Public Information Officer Jennifer Dericco

Roll Call and Call to Order

Mayor Lisa Gillmor called the meeting to order at 11:51 a.m. Assistant to the City Manager Robyn Sahid did the roll call; all Committee members present.

Public Presentations

There were no public presentations.

Item 1. Approve City-School Liaison Committee Meeting Minutes from May 5, 2021

A motion was made by SCUSD Board President Jodi Muirhead, seconded by Vice Mayor Chahal,

and unanimously carried to approve the meeting minutes of the May 5, 2021 City-School Liaison Committee meeting.

Item 2. Update of the End of School Year and Plans for Fall 2021

Superintendent Stella Kemp informed the Committee that the District held in-person graduation ceremonies. There are new turf fields installed at the high schools. Summer school is currently in session. Meal service is continuing during the summer. The District is planning for a full reopening of in person classes for the fall, pending further updates from government agencies. She further stated that the District is holding COVID-19 vaccine events at some school sites, and that the two new schools, Agnew Elementary School and Dolores Huerta Middle School, will have dedication ceremonies on August 7, 2021. There are new state laws regarding the start times of school, and the District will keep the City informed of these updated timings.

Councilmember Kathy Watanabe asked about jurisdiction for police response at the Agnew and Dolores Huerta school sites, which are located in the City of San Jose. Dr. Kemp responded that the schools are under the jurisdiction of the City of San Jose Police Department. Trustee Albert Gonzalez commented that the District wants to ensure communication is consistent, and Mayor Gillmor responded that people have forgotten about traffic impacts of school being in session.

Item 3. Update on Youth Activity Center (YAC) Lease

Parks and Recreation Manager Kim Castro gave an update on status of the YAC master agreement. Staff from both entities participate in bi-weekly calls to develop the master agreement. Trustee Andrew Ratermann wants to ensure the property continues to be accessible to the community since programming benefits the community. Director of Facility Development and Planning Michal Healy commented that the master agreements will go to both the City-School Liaison Committee and the City's Parks and Recreation Commission around the December 2021/January 2022 timeframe for review and comment prior to being brought for approval by the SCUSD Board of Trustees and the Santa Clara City Council in Spring 2022. The current agreement expires in May 2022.

Item 4. Update on City Budget Items related to SCUSD

Mayor Gillmor opened the discussion by stating that the City Council approved the City's 2021-22 budget last night (at the June 22, 2021 Council and Authorities Concurrent Meeting) The Council approved budget reductions in the SCPD budget, but added back \$1.7 million in funding for staffing costs and gave the City Manager and Chief of Police flexibility on how to spend it. Mayor Gillmor further commented that it is not clear whether the City can support programs such as D.A.R.E, PAL (Police Activities League), Explorers, and parks patrol. Chief of Police Pat Nikolai responded that PAL programs are not affected, and although funding for parks patrol was cut, a California Highway Patrol (CHP) grant will supplement funding. There is not enough staffing to implement a full D.A.R.E program, and budget concessions were too late for the program to continue in the upcoming school year; SCPD staffing is down by 21 officers, and for the 11 positions that are authorized to fill, it takes 18 months to get newly hired officers up to speed. Traffic safety around schools is critical and the crossing guard program is still in place.

Board President Muirhead commented that she is sad to hear about D.A.R.E but that the issue seems to be more about staffing and less about money. She asked about the possibility of doing a partial D.A.R.E program, which will still have some value in that 5th graders will have an opportunity to interact with police officers.

Mayor Gillmor asked to clarify impacts to the park patrol. Chief Nikolai responded that budget cuts made under phase 1 impacted as-needed staffing, which is how parks patrol is funded, but that he hopes the CHP grant will mitigate.

Assistant City Manager Nadine Nader reminded the committee members about non-PD budget related impacts that were shared at previous Committee meetings.

Vice Mayor Chahal asked if there is an update related to the City's letter to the District regarding funding of the D.A.R.E program. Chief Business Official Mark Schiel said he would review the current contract internally and with Chief Nikolai. CBO Schiel further thanked the City for sharing the non-PD budget impacts in time for the District to adjust its budget.

Trustee Ratermann asked about potentially re-hiring retirees to staff the D.A.R.E program or any other resources that might enable it to continue. Vice Mayor Chahal commented that the cuts made to the public safety budget were already low compared to other City departments and that allocation the \$1.7 million concession is for the City Manager and Chief of Police to prioritize how to spend. Chief Nikolai responded that he is doing the best he can within current resources. The budget concession (\$1.7 million) will help; he will work hard to develop an alternative program for 5th graders, as investing now pays off in the future. Trustee Ratermann shared that District administrative staff are working with the City on curbing illegal use of fireworks on school sites and that the District is hiring private security staff to assist; he asked for continued help from SCPD.

Item 5. Update on SCUSD Contribution to D.A.R.E Program

This item was discussed under agenda item 4.

Item 6. Discussion regarding Installation of Gates at Mission City Center for Performing Arts

Director Healy commented that the District has not been able to address the weekend unauthorized activities and car parking at Mission City Center for Performing Arts/Wilcox HS. District maintenance staff is installing pipe gates at all entrances to the parking lot. Keys to the gates will go to Parks and Recreation Manager Kim Castro. She asked Manager Castro regarding the City's plans to use the theater. Manager Castro and District staff are working together in securing the site for the Nutcracker performances in the winter. The next request to use the theater would be summer 2022.

Vice Mayor Chahal and Councilmember Watanabe commented on restored funding of programs (Roberta Jones Junior Theater and Santa Clara Ballet) that my impact requests to use the facility. Trustee Gonzales asked about steps to increase security over the holiday weekend. Chief Nikolai recommended blocking entrances to parking lots, which would help deter large groups from gathering. SCPD will conduct extra patrols to the extent possible. Mayor Gillmor commented that the City will not be holding a firework display this year, but that California's Great America will have a firework show.

Item 7. General Updates from Attendees

Community Development Director Andrew Crabtree reported on development applications received in May and part of June, including several remodel applications and commercial development, including a data center on Walsh Street, and a memory care facility on Saratoga Avenue. There was a public hearing on June 15, 2021 for the El Camino Real Specific Plan (ECRSP), and the City Council directed to return to a future meeting with a lower-density version of the plan. The Downtown Community Task Force approved staff's recommendation to develop a framework plan incorporating a form-based approach to regulations. A study session on form-based codes is scheduled on July 15, 2021.

A draft of the Patrick Henry Specific Plan (PHSP) is on the City website. Consultants are working on edits based on stakeholder feedback. The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is planned to be circulated this summer, with Council consideration later in 2021.

The Tasman East Specific Plan (TESP) is being contemplated to add up to 1500 additional residential units. Council discussion is planned to take place at the July 6, 2021 Council meeting. Trustee Ratermann asked if there is a solution being considered for a school and asked about progress on the Related project and the Republic Metropolitan Project at 500 Benton Street. Director Crabtree responded that the TESP has a small footprint and understood that the District was not

interested in a school site there due to the constraints.

For the Related project, the developer is working on design issues and a groundbreaking is planned for early 2022. Regarding the Republic Metropolitan project, representatives for the developer asked the City Council to consider a potential extension of the expired Exclusive Negotiation Agreement (ENA) for discussion on a future meeting agenda but the City Council did not vote in favor of this request.

Director Healy commented that the District is concerned about safe student crossing from the area to Hughes Elementary School, such as a pedestrian overpass. She repeated the District's interest for a school site in the Patrick Henry Plan Area. Director Crabtree responded that the District would need to negotiate directly with the property owners.

Director Healy commented that the District is at a disadvantage with increased housing units without having corresponding school site. Mayor Gillmor asked if the City could designate land as school sites, as she thought the designation was for parks. Trustee Ratermann made a reference to Rivermark (planned community), stating that the District was able to get a school site in this development area. Mayor Gillmor responded that the situation was much different due to single ownership of the area, whereas the Patrick Henry Plan Area has multiple property owners, and asked Director Crabtree on how to help the District. Director Crabtree responded that some projects may have development agreements that allow for negotiation. This is not anticipated for the Patrick Henry Plan Area, however. Occasionally developers may voluntarily provide fees or other contributions to school districts. There is a limit to what Cities can do, as the State of California has determined that school impact (developer) fees are the mechanism by which schools are funded.

CBO Schiel provided examples of how he has seen cities/school districts collaborate in his career and referred to Mello-Roos/Community Facility District (CFD) as something the District could consider pursuing. Trustee Gonzalez commented on the need for the District and City to synergize efforts and collaborate on community access, as well as getting a school site in the North portion of Santa Clara. Councilmember Watanabe commented on the benefit of Don Callejon School and the adjacent park. When the school was planned, it was not anticipated that so many families would be moving into the area, and the school was filled after a year. She further asked about methodology for predicting how many students would be generated in a development. She also shared historical knowledge or prior attempt at passing a Mello-Roos/CFD. CBO Schiel provided an overview of the process for determining student generation and that a demographer provides this service to the District. Director Crabtree commented on other potential opportunities to engage with property owners. Mayor Gillmor stated that she is interested in collaboration.

Manager Kim Castro provided an update on Parks and Recreation programming and shared that enrollment is up. The Ray Gamma Dog Park's ribbon cutting is scheduled for June 24th. The Buchser Tennis Courts shared use facility is now open to the public. The YAC and Teen Center will be open for free after school programming. The summer Food for Families program will come to an end next week. In collaboration with the City library, the Book Mobile will be at parks and school sites during the summer break.

Director Healy shared that the District's summer food program continues at 5 school sites until one week prior to the start of the next school year. No proof of student status is needed, due to a waiver from the federal government. The new Patrick Henry School (located in Sunnyvale) is moving forward. Laurelwood Elementary School will be relocated to Patrick Henry School. There is no plan to for the Laurelwood site. Patrick Henry school site will be called Laurelwood. The District is approving contracts for modernization and master planning for three schools, Bracher, Briarwood, and Westwood.

Bond Director Larry Adams shared that the District is completing elementary fencing projects over

the summer and is replacing roofs on several elementary sites; projects should be finished by the time school starts.

Councilmember Watanabe asked about a development project on Lawrence Expressway and where the students who live there will attend school. Director Healy responded that they will go to Ponderosa Elementary School and Peterson Middle School.

Trustee Ratermann complimented the Mission City news inserts and asked about possibility for cross marketing between City Communications and District adult education programs.

Mayor Gillmor shared that the City will be honoring the Wilcox and Santa Clara High Schools' Boys' basketball teams later in the summer and will invite the Board of Trustees

Trustee Ratermann made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice Mayor Chahal and unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.