



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



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

Via Zoom and City Hall - Council Chambers  
1500 Warburton Avenue, Santa Clara, CA 95050  
Wednesday, September 2, 2020, at 11:00 a.m.

### **Council Present:**

Teresa O'Neill, Chair  
Lisa M. Gillmor, Mayor  
Kathy Watanabe, Councilmember

### **City of Santa Clara (City) Staff Present:**

Deanna J. Santana, City Manager  
Pat Nikolai, Police Chief  
Manuel Pineda, Assistant City Manager  
Cynthia Bojorquez, Assistant City Manager  
Andrew Crabtree, Director of Community Development  
James Teixeira, Director of Parks & Recreation  
Michael Liw, Assistant Director of Public Works  
Dale Seale, Deputy Director of Parks & Recreation  
Kimberly Castro, Recreation Manager  
Robyn Sahid, Assistant to the City Manager

### **Santa Clara Unified School District (SCUSD) Present:**

Michele Ryan, SCUSD Board Chair  
Andrew Ratermann, SCUSD Board Member  
Jodi Muirhead, SCUSD Board Member  
Stella M. Kemp, Superintendent  
Eric Dill, Chief Business Official  
Larry Adams, Bond Projects Director  
Michal Healy, Director of Facility Planning  
Jennifer Dericco, Public Information Officer

### **Call to Order/Introductions**

Chair Teresa O'Neill called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

#### **1. Approval of City-School Liaison Committee minutes from August 19, 2020.**

SCUSD Board Member Andy Ratermann moved to approve the minutes from August 19, 2020. The motion was seconded by SCUSD Board Member Jodi Muirhead. The motion was approved by consensus.

### **Public Presentations**

None.

#### **2. Healthy Meals Program Discussion**

Superintendent Stella M. Kemp began the discussion noting that Nutrition Services Director Karen Luna was not present but knows the City and SCUSD did meet to discuss the program.

Superintendent Kemp also noted that some changes had been made to the food program at the federal level and that they would provide an update later unless someone else had information. City Manager Deanna J. Santana asked Assistant City Manager Cynthia Bojorquez to provide an update on the City's work with the Salvation Army. Assistant City Manager Bojorquez noted that they had met with the Salvation Army about a food distribution program and that they have a 4-week lead time. Assistant City Manager Bojorquez also reported that the City would be working on a Memorandum of Understanding with them. She also noted that on Monday they heard about US Department of Agriculture (USDA) waiver, which allows SCUSD to distribute breakfast and lunch to all Community Members under 18, seven days a week. Assistant City Manager Bojorquez met with Nutrition Services Director Luna and she asked if the City could be of assistance with food distribution one day a week and the City will start support on September 18, 2020.

SCUSD Board Member Muirhead asked how the meals are being funded. Assistant City Manager Bojorquez noted that her understanding from Nutrition Services Director Luna was that funding would be through the USDA.

City of Santa Clara Councilmember Kathy Watanabe asked why food distribution switched to Friday. Superintendent Kemp responded that food distribution was consolidated with the materials pick up day for convenience.

Board Member Ratermann thinks the food program is a great example of partnership and would like to do joint communication about success of this program. City of Santa Clara Mayor Lisa M. Gillmor was also supportive of a joint release or communication with community.

Board Chair Ryan expressed her appreciation on the quick response and this partnership.

Assistant City Manager Bojorquez noted that SCUSD is coordinating with the City of Santa Clara Public Information Officer.

Chair O'Neill called for the Note and File of the report by consensus.

### **3. Illegal use of Fireworks on School Grounds**

Board Member Ratermann asked for this item to be on the agenda because he noticed fireworks being set off on the Wilson High School field last year. Board Member Ratermann would like to think about ways SCUSD can help deter this activity.

Chair O'Neill commented that fireworks started early this year and thinks people may do fireworks for all holidays as the pandemic continues.

Santa Clara Police Chief Pat Nikolai agreed that the use of fireworks was intense this year likely due to the pandemic. Per Chief Nikolai, he spoke with Board Member Ratermann and shared that an easy fix might be to gate the parking lots on sites where firework use is prevalent and possibly consider positioning security personnel on site to deter people.

Chair O'Neill asked Police Chief Nikolai if they were citing people. Police Chief Nikolai noted that they are trying to educate people beforehand to avoid confrontations. Chair O'Neill thought it would be good to come up with a communication plan to help inform the community.

This item was for discussion purposes only.

### **4. School Resource Officer Program and Santa Clara Police Department General Discussion**

Chair O'Neill asked for this item to be placed on the agenda due to the current climate. She thought it would be helpful to talk about what our school resources officers are doing, what's the

perception in the community, and how things are going in general.

Chair O'Neill invited Police Chief Nikolai to give an overview of the City's School Resource Officer Program. Police Chief Nikolai provided an overview of the School Resource Officer Program noting that officers are not assigned to specific schools, but to the program. These officers also do community outreach at the schools. Police Chief Nikolai has not heard any complaints and noted that we don't currently have school resource officers assigned due to remote learning.

Superintendent Kemp shared praise for the school resource officers and the Santa Clara Police Department and noted that she has never heard anything negative. These sentiments were echoed by Board Member Ratermann and he thanked the Santa Clara Police Department.

Board Member Muirhead is appreciative and would like to confirm what funds, if any, are provided by SCUSD to the City of Santa Clara Police Department. City Manager Santana followed up and clarified that SCUSD pays for a portion of the D.A.R.E. Program and the City pays for the school resource officers.

Mayor Gillmor asked if the D.A.R.E. Program will happen this year. Police Chief Nikolai noted that the program will likely be on hold until schools are reopened.

Councilmember Watanabe noted how meaningful the D.A.R.E. program has been to residents.

Board Chair Ryan echoed thanks for partnership between SCUSD and the City.

## **5. Briarwood Drive Improvements**

Assistant Director of Public Works Mike Liw provide an update on the Briarwood Drive traffic calming improvements and also provided some background on the project. The City completed a traffic engineering study before COVID-19. The City held a community meeting on June 3, 2020 to share the findings. On July 7, 2020, the findings and community feedback were shared with the City Council. The City Council ultimately approved the installation of speed humps between Cabrillo Avenue and Warburton Avenue. Staff will conduct outreach before construction begins and the City would like to complete work within the next two to three months.

Chair O'Neill asked if the speed humps would have any impact on the buses. Superintendent Kemp noted that there may be an increase in noise as buses accelerate over the speed humps. Assistant Director Liw pointed out that there was robust discussion at the City Council meeting on speed bumps versus speed humps and noted that all vehicles will have to brake. It was clear residents preferred safety over noise.

Director of Facility Planning Michal Healy stated that the City never reached to SCUSD Transportation Department and they never had a chance to discuss impact on buses. She also noted there will be an increase in noise and wear and tear on the buses. Assistant City Manager Bojorquez noted it was her understanding that Chief Business Official Eric Dill was going to share this information with SCUSD. Mayor Gillmor noted that this was also on the City Council agenda multiple times. Board Member Ratermann also advised the City to think about the location of the speed humps and offered to discuss the current plan with the SCUSD Transportation Department. Assistant Director Liw agreed to send the speed hump locations to Director of Facility Planning Healy.

This item was for discussion purposes only.

## **6. Land Development Update**

Director of Community Development Andrew Crabtree provided an update to the group. He noted

that in terms of development activity, there are three things to think about: 1) the Santa Clara County Shelter-in-Place Order restricted inspections which impacted activity; 2) the City moved to providing services online; and 3) the industry has been trying to adjust. Overall, the City finished the fiscal year on average in terms of development activity.

Director Crabtree provided an overview of several new residential and commercial development applications that had been received. He also provided the dates when City Council would hear updates on the Tasman East Specific Plan and the Downtown Precise Plan and noted that the El Camino Real Specific Plan is now posted online.

Chair O'Neill noted that some funds from the Santana West Settlement Agreement will go toward the financing of an affordable housing project, which will have some three-bedroom apartments.

Director of Facility Planning Healy noted that Charities Housing has reached out to SCUSD on their project and they are looking forward to the project.

Board Member Ratermann asked about the Related Santa Clara project and Director Crabtree noted a few milestones the project had completed over the last six months.

## **7. General Updates from Attendees:**

### **a. City of Santa Clara – Community Development Department, Parks and Recreation Department, and Police Department**

Director of Parks and Recreation James Teixeira provided an update on playground construction noting that Homestead Park, Agnew Park, Fuller Sport Court, and Reed and Grant Streets Sport Parks are still under construction and that Machado Park is complete. The City has received some schematic designs for the Fairway Glen restroom which are being shared with the public for input. Director Teixeira also noted that the City is working on its playground reopening plan.

Chair O'Neill asked about the date for the opening of Reed and Grant Streets Sports Park and Director Teixeira did not have a firm date due to restrictions on gatherings.

Councilmember Watanabe asked how long it would be until playgrounds reopen. Director Teixeira stated that they can't reopen until certain safety measures are taken.

### **b. Santa Clara Unified School District - Facilities Update and Capital Development Update**

Bond Projects Director Larry Adams provided an update on behalf of SCUSD. He noted that the last item to complete on the joint use tennis courts at Buchser Elementary School is being done and they will be scheduling a meeting with the City Parks and Recreation Department to do a walk through. He then provided an update on the exterior improvement projects where they are replacing 21 play structures and installing fencing and shade structures. Playgrounds will be completed in September and the rest of the items will be completed in October. Finally, Bond Projects Director Adams also gave an update about the Agnew Schools. The Elementary and Middle will open August of 2021 and the High School will open in August of 2022.

## **Adjournment**

Board Member Ratermann made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Chair O'Neill. All Committee members were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 12:33 p.m.