



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PARKS COMMISSION
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2023
6:00 P.M.**

**PARTICIPATION IN THE PUBLIC PROCESS
TELECONFERENCING**

This meeting is being conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means consistent with Government Code Section 54953, as Amended by Assembly Bill 361, in response to the state of emergency relating to COVID-19 and enabling teleconferencing accommodations by suspending or waiving specified provisions in the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code § 54950 et seq.). Consistent with AB 361 and Town of Los Gatos Resolution 2021-044 this meeting will not be physically open to the public and the Council and/or Commissioners will be teleconferencing from remote locations. Members of the public can only participate in the meeting by joining the Zoom webinar (log in information provided below).

PARTICIPATION

If you are interested in providing oral comments real-time during the meeting, you must join the Zoom webinar:

- Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:
<https://losgatosca-gov.zoom.us/j/84710700434>
- Or Telephone: USA 214 765 0479 US Toll - USA 888 278 0296 US Toll-free
Conference code: 829813

During the meeting:

- When the Chair announces the item for which you wish to speak, click the “raise hand” feature in Zoom. If you are participating by phone on the Zoom app, press *9 on your telephone keypad to raise your hand. If you are participating by calling in, press #2 on your telephone keypad to raise your hand.
- When called to speak, please limit your comments to three (3) minutes, or such other time as the Chair may decide, consistent with the time limit for speakers at a Council meeting.
- Speakers at public meetings will be asked to provide their full name and to state whether they are a resident of the Town of Los Gatos. This information is optional but not required.

Deadlines for Public Comment and Presentations are as follows:

- Persons wishing to make an audio/visual presentation on any agenda item must submit the presentation electronically, either in person or via email PPWComment@losgatosca.gov, to the Parks and Public Works Department by 3 p.m. the day before the meeting.
- If you are unable to participate in real-time, you may email PPWComment@losgatosca.gov with the subject line “Public Comment Item #_” (insert the item number relevant to your comment) or “Verbal Communications- Non-Agenda Item.” Comments will be reviewed and distributed before the meeting if received by 3:00 p.m. on the day before the meeting. All comments received will become part of the record.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, IF YOU NEED SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK DEPARTMENT AT (408) 354-6834. NOTIFICATION 48 HOURS BEFORE THE MEETING WILL ENABLE THE TOWN TO MAKE REASONABLE ARRANGEMENTS TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY TO THIS MEETING [28 CFR §35.102-35.104]

REMOTE LOCATION PARTICIPANTS

The following Commission Members are listed to permit them to appear electronically or telephonically at the Parks Commission meeting: CHAIR ROB STEPHENSON, VICE-CHAIR OBER, COMMISSIONERS, MIKE BUNCIC, BRANT CORENSEN, CRAIG GLEASON, CHIRAG MAPARA, AND YOUTH COMMISSIONER KAMRON EMAMI. All votes during the teleconferencing session will be conducted by roll call vote.

RULES OF DECORUM AND CIVILITY

To conduct the business of the community in an effective and efficient manner, please follow the meeting guidelines set forth in the Town Code and State law.

The Town does not tolerate disruptive conduct, which includes but is not limited to:

- addressing the Town Council without first being recognized;
- interrupting speakers, Town Council or Town staff;
- continuing to speak after the allotted time has expired;
- failing to relinquish the microphone when directed to do so;
- repetitiously addressing the same subject.

Town Policy does not allow speakers to cede their commenting time to another speaker. Disruption of the meeting may result in a violation of Penal Code Section 403.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

CONSENT ITEMS *(Items appearing on the Consent Items are considered routine Town business and may be approved by one motion. Any member of the Parks Commission may request to have an item removed from the Consent Items for comment and action. Members of the public may provide input on any or multiple Consent Item(s) when the Chair asks for public comments on the Consent Items. If you wish to comment, please follow the Participation Instructions contained on Page 1 of this agenda. If an item is removed, the Chair has the sole discretion to determine when the item will be heard.)*

1. Approve Parks Commission Regular Minutes of December 5, 2022. (Attachment)

VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS *(Members of the public are welcome to address the Commission on any matter that is not listed on the agenda consistent with the Participation instructions contained on page 1 of this agenda. To ensure all agenda items are heard and unless additional time is authorized by the Chair, this portion of the agenda is limited to 30 minutes and no more than three (3) minutes per comment. In the event additional comments were not able to be heard during the initial Verbal Communications portion of the agenda, an additional Verbal Communications will be opened prior to adjournment.)*

OTHER BUSINESS (*Up to three minutes may be allotted for each comment on any of the following items consistent with the Participation Instructions contained on page 1 of this agenda.*)

2. 2023 Chair & Vice Chair Election (Action Item)
Recommendation: Elect the 2023 Commission Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson
3. Return to In-Person Meetings (Verbal Report)
4. 2023 Spring into Green (Verbal Report)
5. Parks and Public Works Report (Verbal Report)
 - A. Park Operations
 - B. Vegetation Management – Open Space
 - C. Belgatos Projects
 - D. Events
6. Youth Commission Report (Verbal Report)
7. Beautification Committee Liaison Report (Verbal Report)

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting scheduled: April 3, 2022

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**TOWN OF LOS GATOS
PARKS COMMISSION REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 02/06/2023

ITEM NO: 1

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
December 5, 2022**

The Parks Commission of the Town of Los Gatos conducted a Regular Meeting on December 5, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. via videoconferencing.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Stephenson, Vice-Chair Ober, Commissioners, Buncic (6:34 p.m.), Corenson, Gleason, Gordon and Youth Commissioner Emami.

CONSENT ITEMS

1. Approve Minutes of the Parks Commission Meeting of October 3, 2022.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Gordon to approve Consent Item 1.
Seconded by Vice-Chair Ober.

VOTE: Unanimously

VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS

No verbal communication.

OTHER BUSINESS

2. Brown Act/Robert's Rules

Wendy Wood, Town Clerk, verbally reported on this item.

The Commission discussed this item.

3. Parks Capital Improvement Projects

Nicolle Burnham, PPW Director, verbally reported on this item. We need to start gathering feedback on Capital Improvement Projects as we start to think about budget planning for the 23/24 fiscal year which will not be adopted by Town Council until May or June. We want to start the conversation tonight about how we might spend the money and what our priorities are.

We have a series of existing projects that are currently funded. The largest project we have is the Los Gatos Creek Trail to Highway 9 Trailhead Connector Project. Which will add a new entrance to the creek trail from Highway 9 and University Avenue with a new bridge crossing over the channel. These projects range in value over the spectrum. We keep a running list of park needs and we sat down with the team and talked about what we know we cannot fund all of the projects so what rises to the top of critical needs? We cannot fund all of these projects so we will need to make some hard choices and hearing from you will be really helpful. The first project is at Creekside Park and the turf is at the end of its life and requires replacement. The \$1,000,000 is the full estimated rate of replacing the turf, there may be an opportunity to cost share with some of our sports leagues, but we don't know that for sure. Playground replacements there are three or four different parks on the list that we identified a need for playground replacement. I put La Rinconada on the list, but another significant need is Oak Meadow Park. It is our biggest and most heavily used playground. I was approached by one of our community groups this last fall and they indicated that they are interested in a funding raising arrangement to work on supporting this project. On the Los Gatos Creek trail, there are two significant pedestrian bridges one is the timber structure, and the other is the Highway 17 overcrossing. It is unclear to me when the last time was when those had structural assessment and evaluation. Vehicular bridges are usually assessed every two years. The same requirements don't apply to pedestrian bridges, and I would suggest that it is probably time from a risk management perspective. I expect the result from that would be probably a series of potential future improvements that would need to be done. The engineering assessment would be the first step. The \$75,000 is a lot; hopefully, we can do it for less than that. Oak Meadow Park, we have an airplane that is on loan from the US Air Force. As part of our agreement with the Air Force to keep the plane, we will be doing regular maintenance. One of the necessary maintenance items is recoating the plane, and we believe that it is time for us to start thinking about that. We will find funding for Oak Meadow Park to install the parking kiosk. The Town is getting ready to go to RFP for paid parking kiosk in our municipal lots in the downtown area and we would like to install a parking kiosk in Oak Meadow at the same time. Pinehurst Community Garden a community group is interested in a community garden on Pinehurst using the PG&E right of way, it is a significant effort. It is currently funded for preliminary evaluation and design and coordination with PG&E, but it will need funding for construction if we move it forward. The tennis courts resurfaced at the two parks where we know we need to resurface the play area to eliminate cracking, restriping, and paint.

The Commission discussed this item.

4. Use Agreements Update

Meredith Johnston, PPW Administrative Technician, verbally reported on this item.

The Commission discussed this item.

5. Pickleball at Blossom Hill Park

Todd Badger, Los Gatos Saratoga Recreation Manager, verbally reported on this item.

The Commission asked questions and discussed this item.

Nicolle Burnham, PPW Director, and Todd Badger, Los Gatos Saratoga Recreation Manager, provided feedback to the questions.

6. PPW Director's Report

A) Park Operations

Jim Harbin, PPW Superintendent, verbally reported on this item.

B) Vegetation Management – Open Space

Jim Harbin, PPW Superintendent, verbally reported on this item.

C) Belgatos Projects

Jim Harbin, PPW Superintendent, verbally reported on this item.

D) Events

Jim Harbin, PPW Superintendent, verbally reported on this item.

The commission discussed this item.

7. Youth Commission Report

Youth Commissioner Emami, verbally reported on this item. The Youth Commission is working on an ordinance on e-bikes.

The Commission asked a question and discussed this item.

Jim Harbin, PPW Superintendent, provided feedback on the question.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Gleason commented on the Mid-Peninsula interest in removing the invasive French broom in the area of St Joseph Hill. They have a tentative date in January and will reach out for volunteers.

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SUBJECT: PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

DATE: January 30, 2022

Commissioner Gordon commented on the unhoused along the Los Gatos Creek Trail.

Commissioner Corenson commented on the beautification committee and is hoping to come back with a report to the Commission during the next meeting.

Chair Stephenson commented on events in the parks and asked the Commission to bring any ideas to the Commission. He also commented on next year's Christmas tree lighting event to make it a bigger event for the 100-year anniversary.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the December 5, 2022 meeting as approved by the Parks Commission.

/s/ Jim Harbin, Superintendent of Parks and Public Works



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS
PARKS COMMISSION REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 02/06/2023

VERBAL COMMUNICATION

DESK ITEM

DATE: February 6, 2023
TO: Parks Commission
FROM: Nicolle Burnham, Director of Parks and Public Works
SUBJECT: Verbal Communication

REMARKS:

Attachment 2 contains public comments received between Thursday, February 2, 2023, through 3:00 p.m. Sunday, February 5, 2023.

Attachments previously received with agenda:

1. Approve Parks Commission Regular Minutes of December 5, 2022.

Attachments received with this Desk Item:

2. Public Comments Received between Thursday, February 2, 2023, through 3:00 p.m. Sunday, February 5, 2023.

PREPARED BY: Nicolle Burnham
Director of Parks and Public Works

From: Ursula Tolley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2023 9:32 PM
To: PPW Comment <PPWComment@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Pickleball

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Good evening,

Please add to the meeting for Monday:

Dedicated Pickleball courts for Los Gatos/Saratoga in keeping with the dedicated tennis courts provided by the city.

Thank you

Ursula KellyTolley

From: Debbie Pinkston <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2023 11:12 AM
To: PPW Comment <PPWComment@losgatosca.gov>
Cc: Debbie Pinkston <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Pickleball in Los Gatos for Town Parks Capital Improvement Project

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

> Parks and Recreation Committee,
> I'm following up on the Todd Badger presentation in the 12/5/22 meeting.
> I would request an update from the committee on Blossom Hill park and pickleball in Los Gatos overall. I encourage a 5 year plan to broadly include facilities throughout town. It is my hope this timeline can begin with a response to the Todd Badger presentation.

>

> As background, i have been in the pickleball club for 3 years. I have spoken to Todd Badger several times, asking how i can advance an agenda for pickleball. He has held me off, letting me know he was advocating. During this time, pickleball has grown over 40%, with over 4.8 million players in the US alone. Sadly, as it has grown, and other cities have embraced this with new, dedicated courts in parks, Los Gatos has not moved forward. I grew up playing tennis in LG. We have the same resources today for tennis we did 45 years ago. The world is changing. The town is changing. Pickleball is a sport embraced by many over 55, but now as it takes hold, a significant group under 24 is playing as well. The utility of a space that holds a tennis court allows 2 or 4 people to play at one time. Many good players, play singles, and most commonly, 2 people are on a court. A pickleball court can hold 16 players in the same space. There is no way you can compare how you utilize space to serve the community more broadly.

>

> I recommend Pickleball finds a place on the priority list and welcome an opportunity to bring you comments and notes from those who would use the courts. We presently share a tennis

court with tennis players and makeshift nets that must be set up each time we play. We pay for this privilege. More beginners flow into the courts every few months and there is no where for them to play adding to the competition for court availability with more experienced players. So, our more seasoned players are leaving, going to San Jose courts, private clubs etc. We are not resourced for the interest and activity levels of the town and we are letting people down, when this activity significantly helps social, mental and physical requirements.

>

> I implore you to develop a pickleball plan for Blossom Hill park that begins with access to courts, or a dedicated set of courts to begin with and grows if the sport continues to eclipse other main offerings of the town parks. We need to be relevant with the times. Things change. We must too.

>

> I also recommend you reline, resurface La Rinconada, but exclusively for pickleball. It is not practical to share with tennis, there are only a few people playing tennis and the % allocation of plays is very small, less than 10%. There are storm related damages and surface damages to the court, that will make it easy to fix the fence, add another gate, and reline for pickleball. A bathroom should be added too.

>

> I appreciate your consideration and a thoughtful reply to how the town park space can be used to address the overgrown needs of the town pickleball community. I know more pickleball players would welcome a place on the agenda at future meetings to discuss next steps, but we need to start now!

>

> Best,

> Debbie Pinkston

From: Bill Crites <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, February 03, 2023 11:26 AM

To: PPW Comment <PPWComment@losgatosca.gov>

Subject: Comment to share during February 6 Parks Commission meeting

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Good morning,

I am a new pickleball player (around 6 months) and have thoroughly enjoyed this fast growing sport. Earlier this week I attended a LGS Recreation pickleball club meeting hosted by Todd Badger. Todd shared that he has been communicating with the Parks Commission and presented at the December 2022 meeting. He shared data on the rapidly rising number of people wanting to learn and play pickleball, so I won't restate those points.

I am submitting a comment for discussion during the Verbal Communication Agenda section regarding Parks Capital Improvement Project of Tennis Court Resurfacing (currently targeted for Fiscal Year 2023/2024). The comment is to repair cracks, resurface and re-stripe for pickleball only. Prior to re-surfacing, keep the existing tennis net and install four permanent pickleball

nets. Permanent pickleball net sets (posts, net and tie-down straps) range in price from \$400 to \$800 per set, excluding installation. From a materials perspective, the total could be an additional \$1600 to \$3200 to the cost of repair, resurfacing and re-striping.

From a priority standpoint, having this work done as early as possible at the start of the fiscal year will lessen the risk of injuries due to the existing cracks that are increasing in size during this winter season. Many of the new players are older and less mobile, more at risk of tripping and falling due to the cracks.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts and I look forward to continuing the discussion and efforts for enhancing/expanding the pickleball experience for the Los Gatos community.

Regards,
Bill Crites
(Los Gatos resident since 1980)

From: Maxine Granadino <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2023 12:49 PM
To: PPW Comment <PPWComment@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Re: parks capital improvement project

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hello,

We would like to see the town install more pickleball courts. As the tennis courts are targeted to be resurfaced in the next budget year, we would like to see some permanent courts with nets made available, and have overstriping for pickleball done on additional courts so they could be used for either tennis or pickleball. We would also encourage the planning of more court installation in other areas of town to be factored in to future budgetary considerations.

Thank you,

Maxine and Francisco Granadino