



DATE: March 12, 2014

AGENDA ITEM # 3

TO: Parks & Recreation Commission

FROM: Beverly Tucker, Staff Liaison

SUBJECT: Parkland Identification Criteria

RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss next steps following City Council suggestions during March 4 Joint Meeting regarding future parkland acquisition guidelines

BACKGROUND

March 4, 2014 the City Council and Parks & Recreation Commission held a joint meeting. During the meeting the Commission presented a memo to Council requesting acquiring new parkland be a Council priority to achieve the number one priority outlined in the adopted City of Los Altos Parks Plan.

DISCUSSION

During the joint meeting the City Council confirmed the importance of acquiring new parkland however it was suggested the Commission develop criteria to guide the City Council in the process. A policy or guideline would assist the City Council in creating a target. This was suggested would help the City Council be proactive and not reactive in considering land acquisitions.

The following points were suggested by individual Councilmembers to guide the Commission in creating a specific framework or criteria.

1. Establish priorities
2. Determine minimum acreage needed for a new park; develop target sizes
3. Prioritize active vs passive parks
4. Determine what types of land is considered suitable (hilly vs flat etc)
5. Consider shared use opportunities with local school districts; survey surrounding cities on how it is structured and rate successes

These suggestions from the City Council may be used by the Commission to develop next steps.

