



City of Emeryville

INCORPORATED 1896

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Chair Andi Eggers
Vice Chair Colin McClure
Member Gail Donaldson
Member Nicholas Robert
Member Carlin Dacey
Member Patriccia Ordonez-Kim
Planning Commissioner Jordan Wax

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting Minutes
ECCL – Building B Conference Room
4727 San Pablo Ave. Emeryville, CA 94608
October 15, 2025 – 6:00 PM

AGENDA

1. Call to Order-6:02pm
2. Roll Call-
 - Member Nicholas Roberts-Absent
3. Public Comment
 1. Submit a written comment card at www.emeryville.org/advisorybodies.
 - No public comment received
4. Approval of September 17, 2025 Regular Meeting Action Minutes
 - Minutes approved if corrections were made:
 1. Replace “Speaker 4” on item 6.1 to: Robert Cheasty the Executive Director and Founder of The Citizens for Eastshore Parks
 2. Correct the spelling of Vice Chair McClure’s first name (Coln to Colin)
 3. Minutes approved pending these changes.
5. Action Items
 1. November and December Meetings
 - No action taken, meetings will take place as normal in both November and December.
6. Information Items
 1. Children’s Outdoor Bill of Rights Review (20 min)
 - a. Eastbay Children and Nature will continue getting feedback from the community on what could be in the Children’s Outdoor Bill of Rights (COBOR). They will compile their responses for the committee to review.
 - b. Chair Eggers question to staff: What will this be for? Staff answer: Community members and organizations can use the COBOR to guide their work in Emeryville and use it to keep City staff/council accountable to what is in it. It can be seen as both aspirational vision of what is possible and used in a way to align with the strategic plan. The decision to have a COBOR has already been approved by City Council. Staff will return to next meeting with clearer direction on what the committee’s output is to be. Chair Eggers question to staff: How specific should we be in creating this document? Staff: The goal is to create a similar document to what San Francisco’s COBOR is. Chair Eggers question staff: Is there

a timeline associated with this? Staff: Assuming, as soon as possible. Planning Commissioner Wax: This is also something that can help move things forward in the Planning and City Council meetings, this can be used as a point of reference. The item will stay as informational with the expectation that feedback from the community will be presented at the next meeting so that a draft can be created. Vice Chair McClure cemented the importance of having balance between broad items and very specific items in the document.

2. Committee Member Individual Park Tour Assessment Review (30 min)

a. Planning Commissioner Wax presented on the Green Way

- i. Leveling up the sections that need to be improved, first highlighting the needs of roller skaters and bikers. Is the Greenway smooth, safe, and spacious? Recommendation: additions of beautification with art, clearer/more signage, lateral expansion, greening more areas, and creating more connections to things along the Greenway.
- ii. Peladeau Park needs shade, estimated to be a quarter mile between shaded areas in this section.
- iii. Safety concern brought up near Greenway path that passes The Bureau 510 restaurant on Hollis. The path is not marked to go to the right so people on wheels crash out on a cement lift in the ground. Staff advised members to do a see click fix and that they will follow up with Public Works (PW). Vice Chair McClure asked for Staff to follow up on the outlets in addition to removing this safety concern on the path. Staff will follow up with Public Works to get an update thereafter.
- iv. There is a need for a safer passageway through the Target area. Chair Eggers agreed, she does not feel safe going through there on her bike, especially alone. No sign that says end of the greenway in this area. Question to staff: Can Greenway continue past target? Planning Division Representative Chung answer: Target is in Oakland and Oakland oversees that through way. Any plans would need to go through Oakland, and it is up to them if they include Emeryville in any planned projects.
- v. Expansion to the North may not be possible. Recommendation: Put in a park.
- vi. Possible expansion recommendations in the Doyle street area: Consider small greenage, maybe a basketball court, and/or more benches. Consider a connection to Huchiun Park here as well.
- vii. Consider the identity around the central greenway and its future connection to Sutter. Would they be interested in helping to develop that section of the Greenway?
- viii. Member Dacey: North 65th needs a stop sign for cars, it's dangerous, they've seen so many collisions and close calls. Vice Chair, McClure agrees. Planning Commissioner Wax shared that options are being discussed on the Planning Commission about those intersections.
- ix. Recommendation: Saturate the area with public art, an idea could be eventually that it would be an art walk.

Beautification recommendation from Member Dacey: Paint the cement blocks around the Doyle/Ocean Ave. area.

Member Donaldson agrees.

- b. Member Donaldson visited Marina Park, Christie Park, and Point Emery. Committee was able to review Christie and Point Emery parks only. Marina Park will be reviewed in the next meeting.

- i. Point Emery: It's a gorgeous view; that's the main draw of the park. Popular activities are watching the fog, boats, birds, and skyline. Another highlight is the access to the Bay Trail. There are people with their dogs and families. Always people parking, taking a breath, having lunch, and unfortunately throwing junk around there too.
- ii. There are benches and a pathway that Parks and Rec got put in, but more intention needs to be done, it is barren. We need to do native planting, add softer shrubs, create a better pathway for pedestrians to access the beach, get rid of ice plants, and more regular maintenance is needed. There is a fair amount of trash on the ground with no trash cans towards the end of the path.
- iii. There is not an accessible path get out there without going behind the parking lot. That path itself has trash cans blocking the way and it is not passable by a lot of people, especially those that have accessibility challenges. Strategic plan says to make the path accessible, but it's not.
- iv. A lot of people just park there and go off on bikes or sail off, but not a lot of support for pedestrians or those that want to stay at the park. Benches and picnic tables would be a great addition to the beach area if we got rid of the ice plants. Vice Chair, McClure agreed that there is a lot of potential at the park.
- v. Chair Eggers pointed out there are only 12 parking spaces at the park. Planning Commissioner Wax pointed out that there is a planned Ashby Bridge slotted to be there, not sure when. Planning Division Representative Chung said she recently asked for an update on this but has not heard back. Planning Commissioner Wax maintains that it will be a while. Vice Chair McClure pointed out that there is RV parking that takes up a lot of parking along the I-80.
- vi. There are some native plants poking up, but the ice plants keep them from pollinating.
- vii. There's another small beach on another side of the point that some people get to, but it will usually be underwater so it might not be worth making a path down there due to the tide. It does not look very attractive either.
- viii. Member Dacey Question: How do you kill ice plants?
Member Donaldson: Not sure what they use to kill them off, but they have water in them so once they die, they are easy to remove. They are brown and ugly until you take them out.
Vice Chair McClure: They are shallow, so they are easy to pull out once they have lost their water. Member Dacey: Can we organize a clean up where we just do that? Or ask the

public to begin pulling them out? Planning Commissioner Wax: You must come behind them and plant something or else they just come back. Member Dacey reiterates a clean-up day like they have for the shoreline. Planning Commissioner Wax agrees and adds that a lot of people want to get rid of the plant, including Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee. Vice Chair, McClure, agrees and asks why we don't just have a community event? Staff Response: I will check in with Public Works about this as well. Member Donaldson: I will reach out to a contact to see what is used to kill off ice plants.

Point raised by Chair Eggers: How do we take more action and get more depth into our work when we review parks? We discuss the parks, have great ideas, and I understand that not everything can happen, but how can we make *some* things happen? Planning Commissioner Wax: agreed. Staff: There are things that we can take back and get information on and maybe there are ways to organize the thoughts and ideas on the parking lot in a way that separates the two (long-term/short term) levels of projects. Vice Chair McClure: Tactical and Strategic items, short and long term, low hanging fruit, etc. Planning Commissioner Wax: We should all feel like we have the ability to share a concern and have time to just talk about some concerns within this meeting. Staff took note of this and will discuss this with the Chair in the Agenda review meeting along with Community Services Director, Rebecca Sermenio.

c. Christie Park:

- i. It's a new park, great park for kids and families, lively, needs more shady places to sit, not a lot of shade in general and needs wind protection. It would be nice if there were BBQ pits and additional seating to gather.
- ii. Many dog owners do not use the dog park, they are always in the grass area, even off leash, even though there are clear signs not to do that. Only two people in the dog park and many others in the grass area.
- iii. The dog park itself has a bad design. There is no connection to the rest of the park, no views in or out of the dog park making it feel isolated. There is no grass, and the trees are boxed in by benches. The surface of the park is a bad surface. Feedback by the park goes in the area said it is too small, the benches don't make sense, and hardly anyone uses it. There might be up to 3 dogs in the park in the morning but usually 1-2 periodically during the day. There is a huge dog community in that area that doesn't use the park. Chair Eggers: Is there another dog park in that area? Answer: No. Recommendation: It seems like an easy fix to lower the view so that people can see that there is a dog park there. The benches take up too much room and block the trees where dogs normally want to go.

3. Website Pages Review (20 min)

- a. Vice Chair McClure Question: Has the firm that the City contracted with completed the 301 redirects from the previous sites so that Google or Bing (etc.) takes people to the correct pages? Staff will add that to the overall feedback on the page. All members shared in discussion: An interactive map would look great, make the parks green on the map and not gray. Recommendation to pick a blue hue and stick with that throughout. Add banners of activities. The site is antiquated, not user friendly and redundant with too many PDF links. The PDF links specifically are not user friendly, especially because the web page and the PDF often have the same information, there was no point in opening the PDF. The rules at the top of the parks page are off putting, they also don't match the rules listed at the park themselves. Terms like, "open lawns," "sports field," etc. need to be better worded and in either way it's off putting to see first. The map or pictures of the park should be the first thing people see. Happy pictures should be the focus. The site is way better than the old one. Vice Chair McClure question: Who maintains the web pages? Answer: Each department updates their own pages. Member Dacey recommendation: When you search for a park, add a feature on the search engine that puts you in the park to do a 360 visual. Don't redirect to the website, just do it through the search engine. Members were encouraged to take the website survey at the bottom of the homepage.

4. Planning Division Updates – Chung (10 min)

- a. No Sutter updates
- b. Rivian submitted their permits. Rivian is taking care of landscaping and tree planting (trees that are not too big because of power lines but enough for shade and cooling).
- c. Follow Up: Oak Walk Mini Park signs went up before new signage requirements went into effect so we can't require them to change the signage so that it's clear it's a public park. However, Chung will be reaching out to the actual property manager to see what can be done.
- d. City staff went on a walking tour of the toll tunnel that goes under the Bay Bridge. There is interest from multiple entities in accessing that area for future projects.
- e. Please look up and attend all the wonderful Rotten City Cultural Art District celebrating Art Month

5. Department Updates – Staff (10 min)

- a. We welcome Hazel Barry as our new Recreation Supervisor for Adult Services and City-Wide Events, please be on the lookout for a reception for her. Senior Center holiday events are ramping up, check out the newsletter for events and trip information.
- b. Youth Services is starting our All Rise Curriculum (character development), Little Buddies mentoring program began, and we had a great professional development day on October 11th.
- c. Swim lessons winding down, Pool of Pumpkins is happening on October 18th. We welcome James Ginley as our new Recreation Assistant/Pool Manager.
- d. Harvest Festival saw close to 2,000 people. Attendees stayed even after the event was over and had a great time (members agreed). 22 volunteers were recruited for the event. Shout out to Public Works that

- support community services, along with all the recreation staff and community partners.
- e. ECDC Halloween parade will be at City Hall on October 31st, walking from ECDC to City Hall. Members are welcome to attend and hand out candy.
- f. Spooky Streets is still happening so check it out. Short discussion on how the event could be expanded towards the greenway and incorporate the businesses along that corridor.
- g. Bay Street is also having a Trunk or Treat Event.
- 6. Review Parking Lot, Public Works Ongoing Coordination, and CIP Items (10 minutes)
 - a. Shellmound Street Lot-Is it possible to rehab that land? Is this something we should do anyway because of sea level rise? The City is aware that the waterway itself is toxic, nothing can be done with that waterway but can follow up to get more specifics.
 - b. Beach Cleanup and Developing of Vegetation-Similar to Point Emery
 - c. Trash-Revisiting a clean up day. Group discussion about how to go about planning a clean-up day. Committee moved to make this information item for November meeting.
 - d. Possible Revenue Opportunities- Permitted/Rentals in spaces that don't have them but are being used for organized sports/activities with a deposit to mitigate trash and vandalism. Consensus that it is needed but the wording needs to be clear as to not put off the regular community user.
- 7. Future Agenda Items
 - 1. Landscape Architect Outreach Plan for Marina and other CIP Projects
 - 2. Park Clean Teams – Volunteer Mobilization-
 - a. Moved to Information Item
 - 3. McLaughlin Eastshore Bioswale Updates
- 8. Announcements / Member Comments
 - a. Planning Commissioner Wax: Reiterating the need to invest in the infrastructure to make parks more accessible to all. This was added to the parking lot. Residence can't enjoy the life we've created for them if they can't access it.
- 9. Adjournment: 8:00pm