Strategic Plan Community Meeting Comments

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Values: What values are most important to you as relate to parks and parks programming?

Introduction

Meeting Comments listed in this document were made by members of the public during the five community meetings for the County Parks Strategic Plan in spring 2017. Comments are grouped by meeting, meeting station, and topic. Participants gave these comments at four distinct stations, responding to the following prompts:

Station 1

Values: What values are most important to you as relate to parks and parks programming?

Vision: What is your biggest vision for what the County Parks Department could help achieve in Santa Cruz?

Station 2

What parts of the County Parks system are most important to you and why?

What is missing?

Station 3

What parts of the County Parks system are most important to you and why?

What is missing?

Station 4

Participants were asked to rank listed options in order of priority to them, based on the following prompts:

Question 1: What in our existing parks needs/deserves the most focus?

Question 2: What's needed county-wide in our parks system to help it best serve county residents and visitors?

Question 3: What parks programming is most wanted/should be pursued

Meeting 1: San Lorenzo Valley

STATION #1

Values

Quality of Park Experience

- A safe place to bring family & leashed pets & to enjoy our beautiful county parks
- Calm
- Department self-sustainability
- Freedom
- Inclusive for the homeless & family
- Integration with federal, state, other parklands
- Park upkeep & neatness
- Presentation
- Quiet (places)
- Repair existing buildings at Quail Hollow Ranch
- Responsibility
- Safe
- Safe & clean (negative example: Harvey West, Pogonip, north county beaches – drugs/homelessness/trash)
- Safe & updated playgrounds (equipment)
- Safe space for kids to play
- Safe, clean & maintained parks

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Diversity of uses
- Integration with adjacent lands
- Legal off-leash dogs on several county park beaches
- Mix of urban parks & recreation with natural & wild spaces in County Parks
- Open space & programs for all ages
- Open space to run & play
- Provide places for interactions with animals (i.e. dog parks, horse trails, petting, bird watching & exploring opportunities)
- Recreation
- The environment =soul therapy

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- (Undeveloped) nature
- Balance human interests with protection of nature
- Balance of recreation & preservation
- Celebration & enjoyment of natural systems
- Celebration of nature
- Clean air & drinkable water
- Conservation
- Conservation of sensitive habitats
- Ecosystem protection
- Enjoyment of nature
- Environmental protection
- Environmental restoration & preservation
- Environmental values
- Green/natural space
- Intergenerational responsibility
- Keep it natural & simple (don't over-develop)
- Native plants & water conscious
- Nature teaches life's lessons
- Preserve open spaces for historic value & preserve natural habitat
- Protect water & watersheds
- Protect, appreciate & understand the environment
- Protection of all wildlife & plants (where appropriate)
- Protection of open space
- Protection of the natural environment
- Respect & care for wildlife
- Restoration of native plants
- Stewardship
- Stewardship of nature
- Sustainability is vital to our survival
- Sustainable trails
- The natural world is of the utmost importance
- The power of nature (green, trees)
- Value all wildlife & their habitats
- Water, biodiversity, healthy communities, working lands all go together
- Wild places

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Access (bus routes)
- Access (without damaging)
- Access for all

- Access for all
- Accessibility
- Accessible open spaces for everyone
- Accessible to all
- Everyone should be able to have a connection to nature through free access to natural parks and open spaces
- Inclusion –as in non-discriminatory
- Inclusion!
- Inclusive of all
- Welcoming & safe feeling County Parks available to all member of this community

Engagement of the Local Community

- Affordable family events
- Bring together youth/adults/families/seniors
- Childhood enrichment outside of school
- Community (feeling a part of)
- Community involvement
- Different ages working & playing & learning together
- Engagement
- Engaging & building community
- Enjoying the outdoors together
- Family
- Family & family oriented activities
- Fun
- Healthy communities
- Helping children with extracurricular activities for a better future for society
- Helping seniors have meaningful lives
- Inspiration for families to visit parks
- Learning
- Learning opportunities
- People will protect what they love & love what they understand (especially when they feel joy)
- Play—in nature
- Programs & events for all ages
- Programs for all ages
- Provide experiential education
- Sharing spaces that promote community
- Sharing with friends
- Sharing!
- Social gatherings
- Teaching, learning & interpretation
- Youth education & exposure to the arts

- No new PG&E lead street lights (according to the AMA new dead street lights are harmful to humans' and animals' vision)
- Respect – for neighborhoods & private property

Vision

Quality of Park Experience

- Attractive bathrooms are provided :)
- County Parks becomes a better advocate for itself
- County Parks finds a way to have better & more reliable funding!
- Parks are accessible for all kids & families – allowing for leashed pets to accompany their families as well. (This will of course be a safe environment & respectful of nature.)
- Parks are clean & safe (have park rangers)
- Parks staff & budget are not limited—so park maintenance can take care of the County Parks
- Ranger & docents in the parks provide safety and learning
- Safe/crime free
- Safety & management is improved for park & trail use & rules/restrictions at Quail Hollow
- Safety (there are kiosks w/personnel – either volunteers or rangers)
- The County has a funding source such that parks aren't cut drastically during the next recession (which will eventually happen)
- The homeless are kept 'in check' *
- There are long-term funding plans
- There are safe family-oriented parks – especially in downtown Santa Cruz*
- There is enforcement of no dog or bikes for protected habitat trails
- There's a new senior Center at Highlands Park befitting the beauty of the park
- There's adequate funding for maintenance & safety
- There's more funding!
- There's shared access between hikers, equestrians & mountain bikers without bickering
- There's supervision & maintenance of parks
- Thoughtful rules are enforced
- Trails are well-maintained & respect different uses
- Uses are matched to locations of parks. (Attention is paid to established neighborhoods & who lives in them.)
- We have park rangers
- We have well-maintained trails that respect different user groups

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- A safe place is provided for educational opportunities, recreational activities & public events
- A variety of different parks are provided for different uses
- County Parks do not duplicate City Parks, State Parks, or BLM managed lands
- County Parks partners with other agencies & land owners to open other properties to access (e.g. SLVWD, City Water, Land Trusts)
- More legal mountain bike trails
- Parks are integrated with other open spaces/park lands (BLM, State parks, other landowners)
- San Lorenzo Valley has an award-winning dog park
- Strong partnerships with other entities help the department leverage limited County resources
- There are 3 off-leash dog beaches: 1) north county: Davenport Landing; 2) mid-county: Corcoran Lagoon or Moran Lake; 3) south county: Seascape, or further south).
- There are activities for all—artists, musicians, athletes, naturalists
- There are lots of activities & spaces for kids to play
- There are more natural settings/less grass
- There are separate areas for different uses
- We have mixed use space for quiet areas
- We have more dog parks

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Diversity (biological & human) is supported
- Landscaping with native & water-wise plants throughout the county
- Nature is preserved & protected
- Parks are kept as natural as possible (with less structure, more trees & plants)
- Priority is placed on green/natural/open spaces, yet we also provide safe playgrounds & family-designated spaces & grounds
- Some areas are provided that are off limits to humans
- There is more environmental signage in parks
- There's a Habitat Management Plan in place
- There's balance between development & undeveloped
- There's more (additional) accessible open space & natural areas
- There's more open space
- There's ongoing maintenance of historical sites (i.e. the Felton Covered Bridge)
- We are wise about the future & our natural resources
- We have a world where the environment is cherished & people are stewards of the earth
- We preserve & enhance the natural environment

- We work with nature, not against

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Accessibility – there are trails/paths & green spaces connecting parks & communities (ex: you are able to ride your bike from Felton to the Boardwalk)
- Low-cost or free access/County Parks helps low-income people have access
- More parks are available where people live (helping to avoid traffic, & making visiting more practical)
- Parks are enjoyed by anyone, without limits
- Parks/facilities are easy to access for the disabled community
- People can walk & bike to their parks, & they do regularly
- There is accessibility to all/ADA – access for those with physical disabilities (signage in English, Spanish & using visuals), on bus routes
- There is free, welcoming access to natural habitats
- There's a fleet of mobile recreation vans that deliver programming to the economically challenged in our community
- There's a pocket park in every neighborhood
- There's access for all
- There's improved & increased park facilities in Boulder Creek
- Walkable communities – parks in SLV are connected by trails or sidewalks

Engagement of the Local Community

- Families are involved/engaged in helping children with different activities
- Great programs for kids are widely available
- Harmonious outdoor communion
- Learning experiences that underscore values of wildness & environmental protection are offered
- Parks & facilities are engaging & there are spaces/places with programs everyone wants to use & look at
- Parks are community gathering places to build trust & friendship
- Parks users are educated
- Public commons
- Quarterly events for families to have fun together – like group game field nights
- Seniors are able to volunteer to help children with different activities

- Strong volunteer program
- There are integrated educational programs – collaborations between parks, libraries & schools
- There are more 'MeetUp'-style Parks gatherings (bird watching, history talks, etc.)
- There are more community sports teams/activities (for non-beginner athletes)
- There are places that are enjoyed & protected
- There are programs for all ages – pre-birth to death, for a variety of interests, young & old together
- There are stimulating classes, concerts & learning environments in the parks
- There is art in our parks
- There is practical agreement & appreciation
- Volunteerism in the county parks creates ownership
- Volunteers are encouraged and their networks are engaged
- We have a mechanism to bring arts (dance, musical instruments, voice) for all ages into our parks system
- We have activities that keep elderly residents active & engaged
- We have family events with art & music
- We have volunteers
- We instill love of play & fun & family through activities
- We share beauty
- We teach people about the natural world in their community

STATION #2

What parts of the County Parks system are most important to you and why?

Quality of Park Experience

- Parking is well marked
- Shade
- Stately trees and landscaping with unique character

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Access to river at Highlands
- Aptos Village Park creek access
- Beaches provide great places for dogs
- Disc golf amenities

- Hiking trails at Quail Hollow
- LEOs Haven playground in Live Oak to be constructed
- Love off-leash dog areas
- Miller Property can provide a good opportunity for SLV residents
- Playgrounds at Ben Lomond and hiking at Quail Hollow (close to home)
- Polo Grounds dog park and other opportunities for dogs
- Quail Hollow has beautiful trails and natural areas
- Quail Hollow Ranch (has incredible natural features and educational potential)
- San Vicente Redwoods property opportunities for future public access
- Skate parks are busy and well used
- Stuff for kids
- Trails and open space at Quail Hollow Ranch
- Value playgrounds in the parks

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Historic preservation is important
- Historic structures
- Miller Property has great natural areas
- Mixed use and preservation of natural areas
- Natural areas have great natural character
- Opportunities to be close to nature in natural areas and habitat
- Quail Hollow horse arena and stables are important part of history
- Quail Hollow natural areas are important
- Riparian habitat at Felton Library site
- Wildlife habitat and protection of wildlife

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Bear Creek Country Club acquisition (thankful for access, especially for seniors)
- Bear Creek Country Club acquisition provides a lot of opportunity

Engagement of the Local Community

- Community at Felton Covered Bridge is great for gatherings
- Community meetings and events
- Facilities and public events
- Felton Covered Bridge Park is a community center
- Nature interpretation at Quail Hollow is important for kids to learn about the environment
- Responsiveness to community needs
- Senior Center at Highlands and all of Highlands has a lot of community activity for all ages
- Volunteer program at Quail Hollow is important

- Weddings and special events facilities

What is missing?

Quality of Park Experience

- Additional funding for Quail Hollow Ranch
- Better operational staff levels to interact with the public in the parks
- Better restrooms and maintenance at Quail Hollow, Felton Covered Bridge and Highlands
- Better trail maintenance
- County Beaches will need improvements as more people use them in the future
- County Parks should have a Park Ranger program to enforce park rules and educated people. A uniformed presence is important in the parks.
- Improved maintenance and less vandalism
- Improving and maintaining quality of parks is more important than adding new parks to the system
- Increase safety in parks
- Maintenance is very important in every park
- Maintenance of courts for sports, especially for pickleball. Also, permanent pickleball courts are needed.
- More improved restrooms and cleanliness in restrooms
- Need park rangers or staff with authority to enforce rules
- Park safety at night
- Permanent restrooms at Felton Covered Bridge
- Regular patrol of parks
- Re-look at where dogs and bikes are allowed
- Safety in parks and supervision in parks.
- Senior Center at Highlands needs maintenance

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Climbing wall and extreme slides for more extreme kids activities
- Dog park and opportunities to hike with dogs in the SLV
- Dog park in SLV
- Dog park in SLV
- Improvements to Miller Property
- Increase biking opportunities between parks
- Increase hiking opportunities between parks
- Miller Property has opportunities for trails
- More access for mountain bikes, and a bike pump track in SLV
- More on-leash areas for dogs
- Musical venue or stage
- Opportunities for large family gatherings outside.

- Pickleball courts
- Place for kids and adults to fly their drones, race their electric toy cars – must be supervised by adults
- Public access to Ben Lomond Mountain SLVWD property
- Swimming at Ben Lomond Park

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Additional restoration and removal of invasive plants
- Miller Property should not be developed
- More natural areas and opportunities for kids
- Motion sensor lights that do not disturb wildlife
- Parks should showcase Low Impact Development concepts
- Parks shouldn't be overdeveloped, and that should be a distinguishing characteristic of County Parks as opposed to City Parks

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Aquatic programs (like those at Simpkins Family Swim Center) at the new Bear Creek Country Club pool.
- Connecting parks with trails
- Improved neighborhood connections to parks
- More accessible trail system for people with disabilities
- Parks should remain accessible to people of all abilities

Engagement of the Local Community

- Education programs for kids in school
- Expand summer programs at Quail Hollow
- Increased outreach to schools and younger generations
- Interactive displays describing natural features and native species at places like Quail Hollow -> could be a smart phone ap as well.
- More collaboration with other organizations
- More community public art
- More information about parks
- More interpretive opportunities and educational opportunities
- More interpretive programs
- More outreach to all demographics
- More programs in the parks in SLV
- Movies in parks
- Partner with County Office of Education
- Partner with Santa Cruz Mountains Arts Center

- Parks should be natural except for tennis courts
- Protection from PG&E LED lights

STATION #3

What programs are most important to you and why?

Quality of Park Experience
None

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation
- Bear Creek Country Club acquisition and partnership
- Great soccer fields
- We love Simpkins Family Swim Center

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources
- Natural history at Quail Hollow Ranch (for kids, high school, adults)

Accessibility of Parks and Programs
None

Engagement of the Local Community
- Boulder Creek programs for seniors
- Highlands programs for seniors – needs more funding
- Interpretive programs at Quail Hollow
- Interpretive programs at Quail Hollow – astronomy
- Lap swim
- Outside the Box art program is great
- Outside the box program is great
- Painting and drawing – connecting kids to natural world
- Public art is very important including sculpture, murals, pillars with mosaics. Creates invested feeling of ownership in community.
- Quail Spectacular - more like that
- Seniors programs get people out of their homes, break cycle of isolation, need to engage, programs need to be spread throughout valley.

- Summer programs in science
- Swim programs for seniors
- Wildflower walks for all ages

What is missing?

Quality of Park Experience

- Hidden gems like horseshoes are not maintained
- Improve infrastructure
- Maintenance of Highlands Senior Center
- Safety in bathrooms

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Amphitheater and outdoor venues like Heart of Soquel
- Boulder Creek has its own district and programs
- Dog park
- Felton Covered Bridge Park is under utilized
- More camping opportunities
- More human/animal activities
- Not a lot going on in the SLV, need more presence and need aquatics

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Balance between access and environment
- Evaluate programs in terms of impact to environment
- Youth most important to develop future stewards. Kids spend too much time indoors

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Bring the cool programs that are in other parts of the County to SLV, including renaissance fair.
- Develop aquatics program in SLV
- Program times should include after school, weekends, evenings, lunch time, concerts during lunch time
- Programs for seniors who need help to get to parks, like a "wheels to the parks" program – could coordinate with Lift Line

Engagement of the Local Community

- Expand interpretive programs to Highlands
- (2) Fostering youth and senior combination for more time for seniors to be with young people

- After school and summer programs – less and less in schools
- All kinds of interest for teen bands, art, exercise, mountain biking, 2K runs, family walks, community events
- Art and connecting kids with nature
- Art programs and community events
- Better marketing
- Engage schools into parks community service projects
- Environmental education and more collaboration with other County entities to enhance park impact
- Flash light walks
- Friday movie nights
- Fundraise for parks – haunted house, mushroom hunt, revisit great fundraising events
- Get kids into parks to develop more respect
- Hands on programs such as garden art projects
- Have coffees in neighborhood to teach people about the parks, especially after the Strategic Plan process
- Include technology
- Inter-generational programs, maybe bocce ball, for mentorship for kids
- Marketing
- More interpretive programs at Quail Hollow Ranch and more staff to open the building on weekends
- More marketing
- More programs
- More teen programs
- More teen programs that are musical
- More volunteers
- Movies in park, acoustic music in parks
- Movies in the parks
- Music after school
- Music programs for kids – jazz in the parks on Sunday afternoons
- Natural history for kids such as geology, plants, weather to foster love of local area
- Need more volunteers
- Need volunteer coordinator to train and schedule and lots of volunteers
- Next Door, Facebook, update parks site, radio, paper, sandwich boards by entrances to parks about activities
- Non-traditional sports, especially for ages 9 to 18, that are low cost and provide something to do in the valley such as croquet, cricket, Frisbee, horseshoes, archery
- Ongoing multi-generational programs in parks in the SLV
- Oral history program and cultural history
- Prioritize youth programs
- Programs at beaches, especially tide pools
- Public arts programs classes including music
- Seasonal holiday events

- See more public art and large sculptures
- Stage and music in Felton Covered Bridge Park to bring community together
- Surf rider education
- Teen programs like zombie camp
- Teens, summer work, learn to be counselors and get school credit for work projects. Could include a trail crew for youth.

STATION #4

Dot vote results

Q1	Score
Integrate Art in Public Spaces	2.22
Increase cleanliness	2.18
Increase Safety	***2.62***
Increase number of programs and events	2.22
Improve Management and conservation of natural resources	2.47
Improve general maintenance	2.23

Q2	Score
Create More Large Regional Parks	2.24
Add New Uses and Improvements	2.37
Provide Access to County-Owned Open Spaces	2.35
Improve and Add Amenities to Beaches and Coastal Access Points	2.35
Create and Improve trail connections between Parks	***2.47***
Create Additional Neighborhood Parks	2.14

Q3	Score
Increase Kids' After-School Programs	2.19
Increase Summer Programs for Kids and Teens	2.11
Increase Interpretive Programs	2.42
Increase Recreation Programs and trips for Adults and Seniors	2.39
Increase Classes	2.29
Increase Aquatics Programs	2.15
Increase Family-Focused Special Events	***2.64***

Comments:

Written notes were not part of the format of this station at this meeting.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Quality of Park Experience

- Take care of what county has to best possible way- including the environment. No need to increase park space if not able to take care of it

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Add pickle ball courts or tennis courts
- Important to separate pedestrians & bike use as some parks are not suitable for both. Ditto: poss., equestrian use & connection. Important to have more interpretive & recreational staff. This is not addressed here.
- No where here in these include dog park. Expansion or addition in the San Lo. Valley

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Restoration of natural resources (removing invasive plants for example). Yes between parks but… keep bikes out of parks except where designed for enforced

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- I will answer differently for SLV & other county areas

Engagement of the Local Community

- Programming- increase outdoor education opportunities for all ages, particularly adults

Other

- Order these in same order as shown on circle chart

Meeting 2: Watsonville

STATION #1

Values

Quality of Park Experience

- Clean parks
- Clean restrooms
- Functional
- Linear movement
- Safe parks
- Safety
- Staff available for safety

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Happiness
- Open space freedom
- Open space to explore
- Promotes family time & promotes positive mental health
- Promotes fun
- Value to the generation and recreation especially for youth & facilities
- Walking paths for all people to use

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Connection to the natural world
- Environment
- Environmentally friendly
- Generation service to future generation
- Respect for nature
- Science

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Accessible parks
- Connectivity w/in neighborhoods
- Equal access
- Equal access
- Equity
- Inclusion bilingual signs
- Inclusion disability
- Inclusive –programms, facility,service
- Integration not segregation
- Integration of so “south county” doesn’t seem isolated from “No. County”

- Open to all people
- Produce justice

Engagement of the Local Community

- Anti-racism
- Arts
- Civility
- Collaboration
- Cooperation
- Creative expression
- Respect
- Respect & accept differences
- Selflessness
- Sense of community
- Sense of inclusivity
- Sports
- Togetherness
- Understanding
- Youth empowerment
- Youth empowerment

Vision

Quality of Park Experience

- Fully maintained & staffed parks
- Grass & flowers
- Group work days –trail maintenance litter clean up
- Improve existing
- Maintain & upgrade
- More basketball courts, improved trails & maintenance of existing parks
- Patrol & monitor
- Safe clean parks
- Safe trails
- Start getting more donations to support parks
- Trees

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Aquarium
- Botanical garden
- City/county integrated trail systems
- Community arts & event center
- Community garden in parks
- Community gardens
- County support for Watsonville wetlands public enjoyment
- Dog parks
- Exercise equipment that generation electricity
- Fields to play organized games
- Multi-use parks
- Not to have school pl. garden fenced off
- Outdoor theater
- Picnic areas w/ benches
- Playgrounds
- Pools
- RV Park @Pinto Lake South County
- School access after hours
- Sculptures that children can climb
- Signage promoting health
- Skateboard facility
- Solar panels
- Sport facilities
- Track & field
- Walking paths

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Native plants in parks
- Uses of alternative energy

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Access to parks & beaches transportation
- Bilingual English/spanish signage, announcements for events

- County holds swim, art classes in 4th district
- Parks more connected to each other, more integrated; new features to existing parks & playgrounds; larger playing fields for sports
- Playgrounds surface pour in place rubber
- Programs for Watsonville by Watsonville
- Public /free campgrounds for homeless
- SC county as a whole equal –access to program from North to South
- That dist. 4 of the county will have more park space, much more

Engagement of the Local Community

- Art classes
- Astronomy nights with local Astro club
- Better communication amongst the community
- Car show
- Dance
- Dance classes
- Ecology walks (how environment works)
- Education related to importance of parks & open spaces
- Ethnic studies classes for teens
- Give power back to people (we can make all this happen if you give us the space)
- Job training programs (free)
- Mind power
- More teenage activities like digital nest
- Movie nights on downtown @ smaller park space
- Music at the park
- Open mic
- Parent training programs (free)
- Pick-up basketball/ other sports tournaments
- Respecting neighboring areas –no loud music
- Senior walking program, like "mall walkers " on 41st ave
- Sense of community in promoting health
- Video gamers (or just gamers in general) social HUB or game design classes
- Wilderness program for teens
- Good food in school; healthier ops(accommodate vegan/veggie eaters)
- Jobs

STATION #2

What parts of the County Parks system are most important to you and why?

Quality of Park Experience
None

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- BBQ space for parties at Pinto Lake
- Dog parks
- Horse corral at Aldridge Lane Park (community access)
- Mesa Village BBQ and picnic areas
- Nature trails and opportunities for youth (provide opportunities for health)
- Picnic areas at Pinto Lake
- Pinto Lake walking trails (change of scenery, nature observation, sense of freedom)
- Playgrounds with elements such as linear workout
- Soccer, baseball, sports facilities
- Trails for hiking and walking (enjoying the outdoors, being active)

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Open space at Pinto Lake

Accessibility of Parks and Programs
None

Engagement of the Local Community
None

What is missing?

Quality of Park Experience

- Cleanliness
- Maintenance, upkeep, outdated amenities such as Pinto Lake restrooms and play structures.

- Mesa Basketball court is out of proportion and we don't like the double rim.
- Safety issues – walking alone in back trails at Pinto Lake doesn't feel safe. More staff presence and park rangers would make it feel safer.
- Security cameras

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- 1 acre of parks per 1,000 people
- Amphitheater for music, gathering, arts
- Basketball courts outside of City of Watsonville -> full court basketball at County Parks.
- Bike pump track in south county
- Buildings or community centers in the parks for multi-uses such as private events, adult and youth programming, community events.
- Community buildings with gathering space, safety and health education space
- Community gardens including ADA plots and healthy eating information
- Funding for master plan development at Pinto Lake
- Inclusive playground at Pinto Lake
- Inclusive playground in Watsonville
- Make improvements simple to maximize the land that is accessible. People only need benches, grass and decomposed granite trails.
- Meditation and viewing area
- More soccer fields
- Natural amphitheater for drama performances, cub scouts, girl scouts, creative spaces
- Open public access and create parking and hiking opportunities at the Bert Scott Estate property.
- Outdoor exercise equipment
- Outdoor stages and theaters (to gather for community events such as theater and music)
- Pajaro River levee bicycling and walking trails.
- Partnerships in rural areas with school districts for use of school facilities by the public during non-school hours.
- Pinto Lake should have RV Park and overnight presence (host living on site) for security.
- Reclaiming substation space at Mesa Village Park, and keeping park separate from sheriff activity.
- Restore Freedom Lake and access
- Signage at high-use areas such as pavilions with healthy eating and fitness health education
- Swimming pool at Pinto Lake; Simpkins Family Swim Center is not accessible to Watsonville
- Trail connections between City of Watsonville and unincorporated County.

- Water access to Pinto Lake
- Watsonville Wetlands resources and help from County Parks
- We would like a full court basketball court at Pinto Lake.
- Youth facilities in Watsonville

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources
None

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Accessibility and safe passage from bus lines
- Accessibility for all ages and disabilities including curbs, and access for elderly
- Accessible trails, and trails for strollers
- ADA accessibility for kids including poured in place rubber surfaces at playgrounds
- ADA accessibility, especially in playgrounds such as Scott Park
- Aquatic center with all age programming, open recreation swimming in Watsonville
- Bike and pedestrian access to parks
- Ensure access to those parks currently inaccessible.
- More accessible recreational spaces and programming (including for people with disabilities)
- More acreage – new parks in south county
- New parks in south County, including a sports complex.
- Pinto Lake ADA improvements to various areas
- Pinto Lake should have a trail connecting the City Park to the County Park.
- Safe passage between parks and schools
- Trail connections

Engagement of the Local Community

- Free lunch programs
- Free programs and music lessons
- More events at County Parks, including programming for youth and events for youth
- There is a lack of programming at Pinto Lake and Mesa Village such as junior rangers, art classes.
- Website calendars of community events (including running events)
- Wilderness programming and access to "natural" world, especially for kids.

STATION #3

What programs are most important to you and why?

Quality of Park Experience
None

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation
- Multi-generational use of parks
- Public sculpture and permanent climbable art
- Soccer fields and camps

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources
None

Accessibility of Parks and Programs
None

Engagement of the Local Community
- Activities for young people for culture and arts
- After school enrichment
- Aquatics programs
- Art programs for children and Kreative Kids
- Collaboration with different teams, aquatics and community events
- Community events in public spaces
- Kinder enrichment
- Promotion of healthy lifestyle
- Senior programs and exercise
- Summer day camps

What is missing?

Quality of Park Experience
None

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation
- Current facilities in south county are underutilized
- Partnership with city
- Shallow pools for splash and play, like the example in Morgan Hill aquatic park
- Splash pools with recycled water

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Fairgrounds and agricultural history programs

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Access to programs for kids with disabilities and safe improvements to existing parks and lifts for aquatics
- Accessible events and parks close to bus transportation
- Accessible programs for kids including language, location and transportation, and affordability
- All programs in south county including senior programs, enrichment programs all week long
- Aquatics programs in south county
- Bilingual processes and materials for this meeting – feedback loop needs to be accessible
- Equity assessment of activities offered throughout county
- Junior Guards program needed in south county
- Making sure programs are accessible to people with disabilities and seniors
- More offerings in Watsonville
- More parks in south county
- More south county events
- Most activities are in Santa Cruz and not in south County public spaces
- Partner with entities that could provide transportation to county parks and office of education
- South County swim programs and aquatic programs for disabled – Duncan Holbert? Ramp to pool
- South county swimming facility
- Transportation issues – need improvements to access south county parks

Engagement of the Local Community

- Ask local non profits to collaborate and subsidize and work with school districts
- Community gardens and cooking programs
- Community literacy
- Health and fitness out in open air for seniors
- Junior ranger program to promote stewardship of parks
- More recreational sports that are affordable and not as structured for weekly access
- More summer day camps
- Move teen space – pro social and artistic, dance, music, art
- Programs that supplement what used to be taught schools
- Provide more outlets and a voice for youth
- Senior activities and access to information about them
- Theater and music programs
- Youth programs for soccer and arts

STATION #4

Dot vote results

Q1	Score
Integrate Art in Public Spaces	1.88
Increase cleanliness	1.78
Increase Safety	***2.45***
Increase number of programs and events	1.93
Improve Management and conservation of natural resources	1.88
Improve general maintenance	2.10

Q2	Score
Create More Large Regional Parks	1.83
Add New Uses and Improvements	***2.22***
Provide Access to County-Owned Open Spaces	2.20
Improve and Add Amenities to Beaches and Coastal Access Points	1.88
Create and Improve trail connections between Parks	1.67
Create Additional Neighborhood Parks	1.92

Q3	Score
Increase Kids' After-School Programs	1.90
Increase Summer Programs for Kids and Teens	2.14
Increase Interpretive Programs	2.00
Increase Recreation Programs and trips for Adults and Seniors	***2.33***
Increase Classes	2.20
Increase Aquatics Programs	1.75
Increase Family-Focused Special Events	2.00

Comments

Quality of Park Experience

- Better bathrooms (Mesa Village is disgusting)
- Better County- City Partnerships, Coordination

- Better safer fencing
- Fix broken equipment
- Lighted Parks for safety
- More cleanliness in Bathrooms
- More safety-community ownership, more people, rangers, better lighting, keep cleaner- will reduce maintenance cost over time
- Park Rangers
- Safer designs
- Safety Cameras
- Safety includes cleanliness, more programs, more "our" space

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Accessible Playground in South County
- Adult play equipment
- Clean Freedom Lake
- Example of Dennis the Menace Park as guide
- Exercise opportunity for kids & Adult
- More Basketball courts
- More public spaces and more art in public spaces
- More Skate Parks
- More uses bring more people
- Rec. facility
- Shallow water features, Programs
- Signage to encourage activity & healthy eating
- Soccer
- Swim facility
- Utilize existing park spaces more efficiently, fit more features in

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Leave some of space natural, undisturbed in each park
- Minimal (trails & benches) in County owned Open Spaces-keep wilder
- Watsonville natural paradise so interpretive programs to connect people to that

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Accessibility
- Accessibility for disability, accessible playground equipment
- Improve access to programs – financial, transportation, not English speaking

- Improve connections between parks – should include bike paths, hiking trails, etc. along roads & farmland
- More Beach Access at night later (ticketing starts too early); Bonfires/Fire pits
- More beaches, coastal access in So. County
- More Mid- co programs into So-Co
- More neighborhood Parks- provide public gathering spaces
- More neighborhood Parks/Parklets to bring community together
- Ramps on beaches, in Parks
- Transportation to parks, Program

Engagement of the Local Community

- "not like the parks don't belong to us & we get to use them, but they are ours"
- Enough After school; programs in city
- Ethnic studies/History/Classes
- Jr. Rangers
- More Aquatic Programs
- More Programs in Watsonville better partnership with city for co-ordinate programs & activities
- More weekly, bi-weekly, monthly programs- more frequency

GENERAL COMMENTS

Quality of Park Experience

- Enforce: no dogs or bikes on protected habitat trails; have a graffiti removal program; have events for all age groups
- Maintenance. The upstairs smoke alarm started beeping this afternoon, and the downstairs bathroom is clogged . It got clogged at the end of event. Thank you! Place looks beautiful! PSO Susan Walters
- Value: safe place, all inclusive, accessible
- Values: protection of open space ; feeling of safety lighting graffiti; meeting needs of all age groups
- Vision: secure crime free mixed use a space for quiet activities, safe easy to access trails/areas

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- I & 4000 want county parks to legally allow off-leash dogs on several county park beaches eg North county, Mid county, South county

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Maintain the natural settings of our parks, while allowing for hikers, leashed dog walkers(very important to have this in every county park), and families areas to explore together
- Preserving Nature: parks that provide areas to recreate as well as area to restore & preserve native habitat
- Value natural preservation: conservation, recreation access, edu nat. history
- Values: Keep it natural, co-exist with wildlife, respect it & take care of it

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- As good as all of your intentions are; a panel of all white people will reflect their reality. Representation matters! One diversity hire won't make a difference Watsonville is overwhelmingly Mexican & overwhelmingly overlooked.
- Vision: accessibility-trails/paths/green space, connectivity, parks & communities
- Walkability: parks connected by trails/sidewalks/protected shoulders so we can walk between parks (walking tours of SLV parks?)
- Yes inclusion: parks that work for kids, adults, even those who are homeless

Engagement of the Local Community

- Education; parks that help people learn about their environment & community, through inclusion & preservation /conservation

Meeting 3: Davenport

STATION #1

Values

Quality of Park Experience

- Adequate waste mgmt
- Clean up after yourself
- Cleanliness
- Leave the world a better place
- Ownership/ responsibility
- Parking lots

- Public safety-pedestrians, motorists, residents, visitors, neighborhoods
- Quality experience for visitors
- Respect the beach, pack your trash
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety
- Sanitary
- Traffic safety

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Abundance
- Active
- Fun
- Include nature education at open space venues
- Wellbeing

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Biodiversity
- Conservation
- Conservation of natural resources
- Environmental protection
- Honor local environment
- Honor local history
- Land stewardship
- Natural history
- Preservation of natural systems
- Resource management
- Respect for nature
- Respect for the natural world

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Access
- Access to nature
- Accessibility
- Connectivity
- Diversity people & bio
- Equal access
- Equal access

- Equity
- Equity re access
- Financial accessibility/equal access
- Inclusion
- Minority access
- People diversity
- People diversity
- Share the resource- coastal beauty is for everyone

Engagement of the Local Community

- All persons welcome
- Community service
- Community spirit
- Education
- Participatory
- Peace
- Peace & quiet in green space respect & communion
- Respect for surrounding
- Respect of local population
- Respect residents
- Sharing resources
- Volunteering

Vision

Quality of Park Experience

- Adequate parking
- Adequate services to clean up after visitors
- Clean accessible parks/beaches
- County parks department is resources including staff & facilities
- Get state parks & county parks to work together
- Keeping what have
- Maintaining what have
- Maintenance –clean up graffiti & trash
- More bathrooms parking lots & garbage cans on the north coast
- Motor home waste disposal/hookups
- No parking on hwy 1
- Open space tax measure

- Parking plan including overflow
- Picnic tables
- Provisions for garbage removal
- Public access that protects neighborhoods
- Public port potties
- Sanitation support across all parks
- Sufficient emergency responsed law enforcement to maintain safety & order
- Trash pickup regularly
- Well ground trails to beaches. Signs stating a little history of the areas and habitat of the area
- "learning" stations

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- A systemically integrated park system that takes natural preservation, equity & multiplicity of use into account
- Cement plant & dairy history center
- Comm.. ctr or grange hall for B.D.
- Dog park in felton
- Dog trails
- Hiking trails
- History museum park, i.e. cement plant hospital
- Kid friendly
- Lime kiln parks
- More picnic tables on the North Coast
- People inter acting w/ nature in healthy ways
- Places and or activities that invite interaction
- Places for people to learn about and interact with the natural world
- Regional trail planning
- That people leave the park with an appreciation of the value to the spirit that outdoor experiences provide

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- High integrity of natural resources
- Removal of non-native species-planting native species

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Accessibility infrastructure- trails, parking
- Bicycle infrastructure (transportation & recreation)
- Coastal education for lower income areas
- Inclusiveness, in most cases general broad lists don't make people think this is that problem. Applies to them. So one on one discussion are needed
- Parks in underserved community
- Parks/pools serving all county neighborhoods
- Public transit to parks
- South County North County integration

Engagement of the Local Community

- Active outreach & enforcement
- County parks and related programs are inviting & relevant to all and provide a pathway for residents to reach wellbeing
- Cultural surprises-history, art, inspiring
- Guides & interpretive resources
- Interpretive signs about natural history
- Involve community groups
- Knowing history of community & why things are the way they are
- Non-extractionary
- North coats residents input with "partners" (BLM, cotoncoast san Vicente, etc) post, land T. sempernses
- Outdoor educational opportunities
- Programs that inspire youth-natural history, conservation, being outdoors
- Public service reminders about care for the natural resources of our county
- Regular co-ordination between groups regulating areas
- Shared resources
- Technology "advanced" infrastructure
- Offsite impacts
- Safety dividers on 1

STATION #2

What parts of the County Parks system are most important to you and why?

Quality of Park Experience

- Facilities that blend into landscape
- Minimal improvements and natural materials used at park facilities
- No vehicle access to beaches
- Restroom at Davenport Landing beach
- Trash cans (there are a lot of park users on the north coast)
- Trash pick-up is important

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Bike pump tracks and jumps provide good opportunities for youth
- Coastal access
- Community meeting space at Highlands Park
- East cliff parkway
- Free safe places to be with kids and creative open spaces
- Mix of developed and natural areas
- Separate bike trails at Wilder Ranch
- Trails and access to beaches
- Trails are good

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Lack of structures in natural areas
- Natural areas (provide places to escape and see nature)

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

None

Engagement of the Local Community

None

What is missing?

Quality of Park Experience

- Additional trash cans on trails
- Better circulation and ingress and egress to beach parking areas on Highway 1 on north coast
- Camp hosts for security at County Beaches
- County Parks should mow Pacific Elementary School grounds in the summer

- Enforcement of rules
- Enforcement of rules at beaches
- General security presence and law enforcement at beaches
- Improvement of Davenport Landing restrooms
- Information and signage that identifies beaches as County Beaches
- Managing beaches and removing trash
- Meet with State Parks and other parks agencies who manage beaches for ideas on better management.
- More security
- Need improved safety for crossing Highway 1 on north coast
- Need to re-examine fees for breaking rules. For example, the fine for camping on the beach is similar to the cost of a campsite at Costanoa.
- Patrol and law enforcement at beaches.
- Restrooms at all county beaches
- RV dump stations on north coast
- RV dump stations on north coast
- Should close Greyhound Rock Park at night
- Think about how to manage crowds at beaches and get them to take their trash out

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Access to unimproved properties (eg Bert Scott Estate) especially for a new bike park facility
- Bike camping opportunities on north coast
- Bike trail from Davenport to Santa Cruz
- Bike trail from Davenport to Santa Cruz with safe bike parking (lockers) in Santa Cruz
- Connecting park properties and parks with trails
- County Parks should be involved in rail trail
- County Parks should manage Davenport main beach
- County should operate main beach at Davenport and improve access trails and provide trash pick-up
- Dog access to beaches
- Dog park in Felton
- Inter-agency park planning
- Inter-agency regional trail crew led by County Parks to build new trails
- Management of the main beach at Davenport
- More equestrian trails
- More restrooms at County Beaches, and public restrooms in town of Davenport
- Mountain-bike specific trails
- Need bike pump track in Watsonville area
- New campgrounds
- No parking should be allowed on Highway 1 on north coast. Parking lots should be developed and improved instead.

- Off-leash dog access at beaches
- Parking for tour buses in Davenport
- Partnership with City of Watsonville to provide trails along the Pajaro River levees
- Plan for where parking should be and not be along entire north coast along Highway 1
- Playgrounds and pump tracks for kids on north coast
- Trail along rail corridor

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Need to manage lagoons and creeks for fish and natural resources with Rail Trail development

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Accessibility to beaches
- Equity geographically in County Park access
- Pool access near Davenport
- Swimming pool on north coast

Engagement of the Local Community

- More open swim hours for kids at Simpkins Family Swim Center
- More outreach about existing County Parks facilities

STATION #3

What programs are most important to you and why?

Quality of Park Experience

- Restoration and improvement of parks

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

None

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

None

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- (2) Scholarship programs
- Importance of financial accessibility – programs change lives

- We don't have many programs on north coast and are okay with that
- Youth programs – north coast and San Lorenzo Valley are underserved

Engagement of the Local Community

- (2) Kids and grandkids value aquatics programs
- Adult and senior programs and participating in Rosie the Riveter
- After-school programs
- All existing programs are good!
- All programs look interesting
- Art events such as the crafts faire
- Bring the artist out to park and get together with neighborhood
- Community events
- Junior guards and little guards are amazing
- Junior guards for social, education, strength and safety
- Lap swim
- Little guards for beach stewardship
- Love art stuff but too much money can go to it
- Mall walking
- Paint balls at Anna Jean Cummings a different color
- Prioritize staying in shape and make the park a work of art
- Professors at UCSC and Swanton (Cal Poly) participating with their kids – more outreach should happen to them about programs
- Public art programs
- Public art programs – maybe not fitting in wild areas, but could include fitting programs like painting classes
- Scott's Valley City park facility with skater kid summer camp – very popular with kids
- Seniors programs
- Youth programming is important so kids have a places to go and can learn about art and science
- Youth programs and community events bring people together

What is missing?

Quality of Park Experience

- Docents on beaches on weekends
- Enforcement of helmet laws
- Field maintenance for soccer
- Graffiti abatement
- Money for Pacific Elementary School grounds
- Someone cited for graffiti they should volunteer for parks in abatement
- Trade mall walking for more beach control
- Weary of attracting more visitors without having proper resources to regulate

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Cement plant for events
- Take over the main beach at Davenport
- Walking path through trees that loops through the neighborhood with exercise stations
- Youth opportunities and more variety with sports and pump tracks, bike jumps, skate parks

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

None

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Davenport and north coast have a different demographic – need soccer facilities and beach care here
- Junior guards at pool in north coast
- Need transportation services for north coast – north coast is isolated
- North coast pool with hot salty water
- Pool on north coast

Engagement of the Local Community

- (2) Longer recreation swim times for kids
- Better communication with UCSC about the north coast
- Citizens science programs
- Community garden and agriculture project – maybe partner with Cal Poly and could involve seniors teaching kids
- County office of education
- Data on visitors – County as compared to tourist
- Do we connect with community action board?
- Don't see how County programs and events work in north coast environment
- Educate all the visitors
- Education for dog owners about picking up after dogs
- Education for kids and adults about land and understanding stewardship needs
- Expanding junior guards
- First Fridays on Thursday and use different venues for live music
- Healthy education of coast line – targeting out-of-County visitors
- High school students to volunteer – they have hours to fulfill
- Incorporate stewardship of land and parks into school curriculum
- Interpretive programming on the north coast
- More collaboration with resource center around stewardship
- More for youth – more aquatics programs

- More messaging and public relations through systems and agencies like schools and senior centers
- More positive engagement
- Movie nights
- Movie nights are good to get people outside and with family
- Outdoor and public art showcase for native species
- Outdoor education with BLM
- Publicity for volunteer programs information
- Sherriff's office and probation could help with restoration
- Shocked we don't know all about these programs
- Target education towards UCSC for beach stewardship

STATION #4

Dot vote results

Q1	**Score**
Integrate Art in Public Spaces	1.33
Increase cleanliness	1.94
Increase Safety	2.18
Increase number of programs and events	1.50
Improve Management and conservation of natural resources	***2.24***
Improve general maintenance	2.06

Q2	**Score**
Create More Large Regional Parks	0
Add New Uses and Improvements	1.50
Provide Access to County-Owned Open Spaces	2.33
Improve and Add Amenities to Beaches and Coastal Access Points	***2.52***
Create and Improve trail connections between Parks	1.88
Create Additional Neighborhood Parks	2.00

Q3	**Score**
Increase Kids' After-School Programs	2.29
Increase Summer Programs for Kids and Teens	1.92
Increase Interpretive Programs	2.21
Increase Recreation Programs and trips for Adults and Seniors	1.75

Increase Classes	1.60
Increase Aquatics Programs	2.13
Increase Family-Focused Special Events	***2.50***

Comments

Quality of Park Experience

- $1000 ticket for littering, has these ever been one issued?
- Accountability – consequences
- Animal proof trash cans =low hanging fruit
- Bathrooms – trash
- Bathrooms & trash
- Bee hive in Davenport Landing Bathroom
- Cleanliness- Safety- general Maintenance
- Coastal Parks-trash on beaches
- Enforcements of rules-clean up your trash
- Funding from State
- Have plenty of parks
- Healthy ecosystem= cleanliness=safe
- Increase official presence for safety
- Increase staff capacity-docents
- Increase staffing
- Liter education &enforcement
- Make the ones we have work
- Mowing- Increase infrastructural, decrease party –bathrooms-parking lots
- No. Coast Beaches- bad reputation
- Parking
- People walk off cliffs
- Presence- ability to cite
- Regulated night access
- Safety not a big issue
- Safety= Hwy 1 – Sobriety check points
- Toll on 17 pack your trash
- Trails to Sand –improve
- Trash- dumping- roads & beaches
- Trash on beach

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Govt. needs to work together

- Invest in Bike trails / tracks
- Multi-use connection trails
- Trails connecting Parks & other public Spaces

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- As population increase need to be smarter about managing natural resources
- Methods used for growing can. & impact on environment

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- North coast pool
- Pool in davenport
- Safety Accessibility

Engagement of the Local Community

- County & parks should have role in connections
- Local day trips
- Natural History – education
- Oceans & mountains=art, events, programs
- Programs- increase trips
- Sporting events

Other

- Group felt like they didn't have enough to vote for 2nd & 3rd
- Not enough dots

GENERAL COMMENTS

None

Meeting 4: Aptos

STATION #1

Values

Quality of Park Experience

- All developers should pay full park development fees
- Clean, safe, maintained
- cost recovery
- Custody
- Fiscal responsibility
- Funds
- Keep the parks & admin. Funded without heavy taxation
- Ownership
- quality services
- Recycling
- respect for our parks
- Safe places to recreate
- Safety
- Safety
- Service
- sustainability-funding
- trust
- well maintained shared spaces

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Active use of spare time
- children
- commitment to children's health through activities
- Focus on youth keep them active and engaged w/ outdoors
- Fun
- Include community gardens for local gathering and sense of community
- Interactive & active
- multiple uses
- parks should provide for residents of all ages and abilities
- Serves local residents
- Walking in park should be for all to enjoy the harmony in the park

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Biodiversity
- care for our environment
- Conservation
- Conservation
- ecology green sustainability
- Environment
- History
- Honor our heritage & history
- Natural resource stewardship
- no degradation of habitat
- Preserve mix of wild places that are mixed with “maniared” use areas
- Protect environment
- protection of natural resources
- Respect & appreciate nature e.g. animals, plants, ocean, land etc
- Respect for the environment
- Respect for the environment
- Sustainability
- Value open space in communities

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Accessibility
- accessibility for all
- accessibility in terms of special needs but also proximity and cost for residents
- Accessible
- accessible as possible to wide population
- affordable inclusive access
- Diversity
- Equal access
- equal access throughout county
- equity across the community
- Equity over equality
- inclusivity
- Inclusivity

Engagement of the Local Community

- Availability to handle different needs
- Collaboration
- collaboration re: problem solving of homeless
- commitment to social volunteering via park activities
- Community harmony
- Connection to nature & community
- education
- respect
- Respect
- respect and consideration for others
- respect for local residents
- respect for people & for nature
- respect others
- value social space where all can gather
- Youth programming

Vision

Quality of Park Experience

- Every park should have permanent well maintains bathrooms
- Focus on maintaining & improving existing parks making them multi use (more playgrounds) before making new parks
- Fully funded
- Funding
- Keep grass in play areas no artificial turf
- More attention to safety issues at our parks
- More garbage cans & recycling bins
- More staffing for park upkeep
- Parks dept operates in a fiscally responsible manner w/ a focus on sustainable funding

- Play structures that go beyond the cookie-cutter ones that are all the same
- Safe accessible open space for educational & community use
- Upgraded maintenance for existing facilities
- Well maintained trails and planted areas

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Agricultural park perfect for Watsonville
- Build open space provide more access to green spaces and connections between parks & people
- Community gardens in all areas of the county
- Completing the master plan for each park
- Create space to honor environmental, cultural, physical needs
- Dog walking trails
- Facilities and programs that compliment the beauty of our county
- Improve the quality of life for all residents
- Learning space
- More commitment to activities for all ages at all parks
- Native plant trails
- Natural areas interconnected (via trails /open space) throughout the county(collaboration of other land trusts, state parks, easements etc.) for people & for critters
- Offer multiple venues . arts, sports, relaxation
- Parks should grow to facilitate more free time demand will increase
- Parks that are utilized
- Partnering to maximize resources
- Places to gather for classes, events & such- accessible, affordable, friendly& welcoming, diversity of our neighbors
- Places to go for peace & quiet, to enjoy & learn/experience the natural world
- Safe open space unstructured trails and natural areas
- Separate peaceful walking from mtn bike area
- User friendly to diverse groups with differing needs

- Vibrant community resources

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Each park close enough to each other for wildlife/ plant life to mingles
- Education re: water pollution
- Focus on improving habitat by native plant restoration
- Ground water recharge & rain water collection projects/ demo free classes
- Importance of open spaces
- Mix of physical cultural resources
- When interests compete we on side of maintaining options for the future eg. Once you 've built a paved road you lose the option to maintain a nature habitat

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Availability
- Easy access for all residents to natural beauty & fun activities
- Free access
- More activities distributed across our parks systems
- More all inclusive parks for kids in disabilities
- Outreach to Watsonville
- Parks for all
- Parks in walking distance
- Parks responsible to regional community access for equal programs at all parks
- Pickle ball courts in every community
- Something for everyone (inclusive)

Engagement of the Local Community

- After school child care/day care at schools for working parents
- After school programs for youth
- Educational & environmentally engaging

- Effective partner to state parks, NGO & other govt entities
- Feed the community holistically address overall community wellness
- Free classes & interpretive programs in all areas of the county
- Historic interpretive panels incorporate natural features as a theme in neighborhood park
- More programs for seniors i.e. bus trips
- Parks valued by residents demonstrated by use
- Programs that expand community interaction beyond local parks to include wide or county community
- Provide opportunities for skills development
- School visits from parks to promote ecology here
- Teach environmental impact i.e, water pollution
- The parks department provides great programs and facilities that needs of SCC residents
- Use local non profits as resources & foe teaching classes (California nature eg. Plant society)
- Vision & plan for each park as to priorities & outreach
- Yearly community meetings to keep people engaged

STATION #2

What parts of the County Parks system are most important to you and why?

Quality of Park Experience

- Equal available park spaces
- Maintenance – staff serve as docents and are knowledgeable
- Playground improvements in Aptos
- Polo Restrooms building
- Safe activities at parks
- Staff demeanor, helpful and approachable

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Brommer Park
- Children's activities
- Coastal access points

- Developed facilities with open space (variety of types close by)
- Dog park and bike park at Polo Grounds
- Facilities and park amenities that are close to home
- Hidden Beach Park and access to the beach
- Natural open space to run
- Opportunities to walk in natural areas such as Pinto Lake and Quail Hollow
- Parks with playgrounds, open space (provides sanity for parents and uses children's energy)
- Pickleball courts (provide social, active, safe activities)
- Playgrounds
- Playgrounds, sports fields (kids can be active, places for family time, exercise)
- Simpkins Family Swim Center (for exercise, safety from swim lessons)
- Variety of play structures

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources
None

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Free, widely-distributed parks

Engagement of the Local Community

- After-school programs (provide kids with outdoor activities, away from screens)
- Each park is its own community and reflects community
- Festivals and community events at Aptos Village Park
- Music festival at Aptos Village Park

What is missing?

Quality of Park Experience

- Brommer Park has safety issues, especially at night
- Coordinate with other park agencies for consistent rules
- Docent programs to improve stewardship education
- Enforcement of trail rules
- Expand volunteer programs and information about park rules
- General maintenance
- Improve maintenance of current parks
- Lack of use creates safety issues. More use makes parks safe and accessible
- Limit access for improper use of parks

- More trash and recycle containers at Polo Grounds and Hidden Beach and a number to call to replace them (garbage left in the parks)
- Park Rangers and identifying most significant issues for rangers.
- Park rangers and volunteer rangers
- Parking especially Aptos Village Park creates inaccessibility for users
- Poison oak maintenance
- Promote Parks Department
- Safe trail use
- Safety and enforcement of park rules, discouraging camping by homeless in parks
- Signage to know and find County Parks
- Volunteer neighborhood watch program
- Work with sheriffs to address safety and enforcement of rules

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Access to creeks such has Valencia Creek at Polo Grounds (erosion is created by not having good access)
- Add trail connections
- Additional development to under-used parks
- Adult facilities such as fitness equipment
- Agriculture parks similar to Emma Prusch park in San Jose.
- Camping facilities (State Parks camping is always booked)
- Collaborate with school districts to add access for facilities
- Complete Polo Grounds Master Plan – start with the basics at each park
- Connecting trail system of public lands
- Destination neighborhood parks for exploration
- Dog walking trails on leash
- Increase maintenance and existing facilities rather than add new properties
- More access to open spaces such as Miller Property
- More indoor use
- More multi-use facilities at Polo Grounds
- More south county coastal access points
- New County Parks Master Plan that would identify priority uses in each park throughout the County.
- No dogs in State Parks, so County Parks provide this opportunity for local residents
- Pickleball courts
- Playground at Polo Grounds (would be beneficial during athletic games)
- Rebuild bike jumps (loss of Post Office Jumps is seen, it served at risk youth)

- Riverwalk development
- Safe bike paths, trail connections, public/private partnership for connections
- Shortage of athletic fields especially for practice. Find large areas for multi-sport practice areas.

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- County collaboration with agencies to look at wildlife corridors in strategic places. Collaboration magnifies result.
- Habitat considerations when planning development and expansion of parks. Balance people with conservation needs.
- Habitat protection at all parks (see wildlife that need protected habitats)
- Land stewardship, nature conservation
- Problems with non-native invasive plants (collaborate with agencies for native restoration)

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Access to park that are local
- Accessibility and broadly making facilities more accessible for people of all ages (for example hand rails to Quail Hollow Ranch House)
- Assessment of facilities and programs and increase equally throughout the county
- Countywide map with bus routes to parks to interconnect parks, and showing which parks are accessible from bus lines.
- Expand local programs to Aptos for seniors
- More aquatic facilities in south county. Could partner with schools, YMCA and County programs
- More use of existing local parks (avoid highway)
- New parks that are close to homes. Neighborhood parks with opportunities for after school and aquatic programs.
- Partner with Pajaro Valley High to build pool then add County programming, lessons, lifeguards (serves underserved community)
- Similar amenities through all communities to address traffic and access issues, such as an aquatics center at Pinto Lake
- Wide range of amenities in each area (reduce traffic impacts from people traveling to other parts of the county for local parks)

Engagement of the Local Community

- Better communication from Parks Dept and how public can contact the Department for increased accountability, share of information about changes upgrades, outreach with information.
- Better outreach about department offerings

- Bulletin boards at all parks with information
- Classes at Aptos Park. Draw people to park as village grows.
- Communicate with users to bring people to parks, such as Next Door, Soquel Neighbors Association, publicity
- Community outreach to neighbors and volunteer outreach
- Increase all age programming, especially adults and older adults
- Increase classes in County Parks
- Increase swim lesson programs, free or affordable programs, accessible for all, including transportation
- Lack of outreach regarding programming and park use
- More programs for youth in Aptos like city recreation programs
- Partnership with County Office of Education for field trips to create stewardship through interpretive programs
- Programming for "non-athletic" kids to provide enrichment, accessible arts, economic access to enrichment programs
- Resource collection about facilities/programs that community can locally access
- Senior programs, bus trips (access, enrichment, need for aging community, add days to existing trips for more people to access)
- Sponsor dog training programs
- Strategic local programming to fill role in using local facilities

STATION #3

What programs are most important to you and why?

Quality of Park Experience
None

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Ball fields are important
- Number one recreational activity is walking – critical to have a place to go
- Open swim and hangout all day and less expensive
- Place for anyone to come – should be available and open

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources
None

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Senior programs but would like to see a second bus so more can participate and some money for subsidy

Engagement of the Local Community

- (2) Swim lessons and junior guards
- All programs are critical and they serve particular needs and places for people to be outside
- Arts important – more family together arts projects
- How well do people know about all our offerings?
- Junior guards hugely important to expose kids to ocean and safety
- Outside the box art program makes going through town more beautiful
- Swim lessons, but hard to get into and not at convenient times
- Youth hand teen programs help kids learn about the environment
- Youth programs get kids outside and seeing outdoor open space, and not just virtual reality

What is missing?

Quality of Park Experience

- Better placement of trash cans like recycling cans next to fields
- Better signage about public behavior – set expectations

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Free spaces for community groups to meet
- More community gardens and an urban agriculture park like Emma Prusch Park in San Jose
- People use access to beach and that is provided by a variety of entities so continue to support
- Pickleball courts in south county
- Share the wealth with things localized at each park
- Things that are used by community; maybe a playground or tot lot at Aptos Park

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Groundwater recharge and rainwater collection at all parks and more permeable surfaces

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Affordable or free programs
- All parks should be accessible to all abilities
- Aquatics important but not easily accessible from SLV

- Balance of adult and senior programs geographically so people don't have to drive to them
- More interpretive programs at other parks throughout county
- Need swim lessons at other parks –coordinate with Pajaro Valley High
- Parking sometimes a deterrent so need shuttle service sometimes
- Partnership with services to get people who can't drive to locations, pick up spots, etc
- Provide things people can afford to pay for so they can help support other programs
- Something for everyone at nearby locations, services equally dispersed so less driving is necessary
- Super affordable swim programs for older kids – things kids can do together without lots of structure and places other than Simpkins Family Swim Center.
- Traffic has tied community – so hard to get to programs – more programs spread out at all parks

Engagement of the Local Community

- Activity brochures can be too much info to sort through
- Activity guide with e-updates or sent more than once
- Adult and senior programs without a schedule – like drop in basketball and pickleball
- Anna Jean Cummings Park should have more interpretive programs, birding and signage
- Aptos park facility underutilized – more interpretive and evening picnics with music that are free
- Arbor day program for tree-planting, date tree so connect to park as they grow up
- At Aptos Village Park – BBQ night with game nights for family
- Better promotion of what we do offer
- Bulletins in bathrooms
- Coordinate with girl scouts and boy scouts
- Drop-in make art, run by kids with adult supervision
- Drop-in spaces for teens with activities but more open
- Environmental stewardship and skills programs
- Existing Aptos Village Park building seems underutilized, what about senior events in the club house
- Expansion of community swim days
- Have adult programs similar to youth like interpretive
- Have young people be roving stewards
- Include music in arts
- Joint adult/family programs to run together
- Kids flying program to learn about flying – tie into programs in Watsonville airport – might be good for older kids
- Like to see tai chi classes and rotate throughout county locations. Parks are good places to exercise.

- Lots of smaller events at locations throughout the county
- Make it open and available, for example family dinner with a band and learn instruments
- More adult health and wellness programs such as adult boot camp, zuumba
- More articles about programs in paper
- More concerts, food trucks, jazz concerts, movie nights at parks
- More programming for kids who are younger (3-6) in mid to south county, especially in mornings
- More public art
- More systematic cooperation with non-profits and offering things together and joint advertising, such as wetlands programs in south county
- Mostly interested in interpretive programs for adults and kids
- Movie nights
- Need more outreach on what's available
- Other ways to engage kids and families in volunteer activities at parks
- Pay for renting spaces with service like work exchange
- Programs so kids can develop whole child
- Programs sometimes have age limits up to 12 or 14; what about kids who are 15-18? We need more things for older teens
- Regular and free ocean safety classes
- Rotate food trucks to other parks
- Science programs and maybe partner with aquarium
- Senior events sometimes hard to get to because not enough in south county
- Senior programs in Capitola area and van service or other way for people to get to programs, or disperse programs among all areas
- Stewardship programs for parks users, such as pack your trash, clean up after your dog, etc
- Use Next Door and online user groups to inform folks

Other comments

- Maybe park near airport

STATION #4

Dot vote results

Q1	**Score**
Integrate Art in Public Spaces	1.67
Increase cleanliness	2.00

Increase Safety	***2.44***
Increase number of programs and events	2.13
Improve Management and conservation of natural resources	2.19
Improve general maintenance	1.94

Q2	**Score**
Create More Large Regional Parks	1.67
Add New Uses and Improvements	2.00
Provide Access to County-Owned Open Spaces	***2.38***
Improve and Add Amenities to Beaches and Coastal Access Points	1.82
Create and Improve trail connections between Parks	2.00
Create Additional Neighborhood Parks	2.00

Q3	**Score**
Increase Kids' After-School Programs	2.10
Increase Summer Programs for Kids and Teens	1.80
Increase Interpretive Programs	2.00
Increase Recreation Programs and trips for Adults and Seniors	2.18
Increase Classes	***2.25***
Increase Aquatics Programs	1.67
Increase Family-Focused Special Events	1.86

Comments

Quality of Park Experience

- Administrative maintenance so as not to lose staff again needed
- Caretakers and park hosts needed
- Deferred maintenance – baseline needed to get things done – avoid cuts – make parks available and renovated

- Discontinue growth until staffing can maintain
- Enforcement
- Increased bathroom facilities (Anna Jean Cummings restroom doesn't serve whole park users)
- Maintaining walkways at beaches such as Hidden Beach, permanent restrooms hand rail and ADA access to beach access points
- Maintenance – if well cared for, people are more likely to treat space better
- More security needed at existing parks
- Parking
- Parks to staff ration funding issue – funding is needed
- Parks too manicured – mix of natural spaces and built spaces
- People want more, but aren't willing to pay for staff and maintenance
- Safety – illegal campsites at Anna Jean Cummings and Aptos Village Park; improvements needed to stairways, holes in grass and fields, physical safety
- Safety – people feel safe
- Safety – separate trails for maintain bikes and hikers
- Safety – travel leagues and unsafe behaviors, enforcement, broken equipment concerns
- Trash adds to more trash
- Trash is an issue

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Adding things to existing parks such as community gardens, dog parks (big and little separate), bike jumps
- All equally important
- Aptos Village Park needs a playground
- Aquatics – learning to swim to enjoy local resources better
- Balance is challenging – serving community
- Center for childcare
- Collaborating with other organizations – south county pools and schools
- Complete current parks phased development before expanding
- County Park with lake facility

- Difficulty of serving entire county – balance on serving community
- Farm Park – wild places
- Hiking opportunities
- Increase park usage
- Kids a priority
- Miller Property should have camping
- New uses/improvements
- Self-fulfilling, self-serve activities with infrastructure in place like walking terails, pickleball courts, exercise stations, basketball
- Trail access in Pleasant Valley
- Varied facilities per park (Anna Jean playground) at all parks

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Conservation – Miller Property for youth outdoor education and unstructured enrichment and engagement
- Expand without destroying habitat
- Invasive species abatement
- Management of natural resources – Anna Jean Cummings cutting back brush invading trails; Quail Hollow Ranch is well maintained; conservation of natural resource
- Natural resources for birding

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Access – countywide mini parks such as Seacliff Village)
- Additional neighborhood parks that are local
- List of parks linked to bus routes on website
- More in south county, access, transportation issues (Pinto Lake)
- Need increased transportation and access to parks
- Spreading out in county – more mid and south county aquatics, partner with schools and Pajaro Valley High aquatics

Engagement of the Local Community

- After-school programs – kids engaged in outdoors, parks system
- Connecting youth to environmental impact
- Family focused events needed
- Increase programs and events for kids
- Interpretive programs, learning about our county birds, seniors and kids
- Low cost programs a priority for families
- More swim lessons
- Non-profit collaborations in south county
- Outreach needed
- Partnerships with non-profits for conservation
- Program increase with existing staff if self-sustaining – raise fees?
- Programs and events
- Same trip offered on several days – better outreach
- Volunteer community groups needed
- Young people – art, all forms

GENERAL COMMENTS

Quality of Park Experience

- Make the world a better place no litter, no graffiti

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Permanent need! Pickle ball courts
- Rebuild bike jumps in mid county and south county areas

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Balance expansion w/ habitat consideration i.e. birds
- Values: conservation & re cycling

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Be sure "equal access: to parks includes not just age groups but also all income levels, ability levels, ethnic groups, minorities. Vision: that everyone who lives in SC goes to our natural parks & open spaces for enjoyment and appreciates their value
- Map of buses access map so do not have to take car
- Partnership w/ services to get people to who cannot drive to programs
- Sr programs 2nd bus perhaps $$ subsidy

Engagement of the Local Community

- Develop a 40 parks review & analysis grid quick view then go to park page for synopsis overview

Parks	hike	bike	slot	art	classes
Pg 20	x			x	x
Pg 21	x				x
Pg22		x		x	x
Pg23					x

- Donation stations
- For Aptos Village Park and other appropriate parks- have a live-on site host that gets reduced living space cost in exchange for providing regular family themed interpretive programs- much like the programs at quail Hollow Ranch. This would also make park security better.
- Happy to be part of the process; I've been cleaning up the polo grounds for the last few years. The county park staff need to assess the groups that use the park youth baseball and soccer programs. They are contractually obligated to clean up. It creates an added burden on staff and leaves the space unattractive
- I appreciated the opportunity to share ideas, it was a well run meeting! Jill chester Aptos
- More senior programs i.e. Bus trips-second bus for the same event; funds allocated to help subsidize this program; for those that cannot drive coordinate w/ lift line
- Taking down, feeding and planting trees … by children
- Thanks to the whole team for putting this workshop together. It would be great to see the parks dept. embark on a full parks and ref master plan in the near future, I think there's lots of opportunity moving forward to look at creating more sustainable funding source/remove generation to reduce reliance on the general fund.

Other Comments

- I would prefer not breaking into small groups –it is too noisy and adds confusion at a time when we are asked for thoughtful focused time

Meeting 5: Live Oak

STATION #1

Values

Quality of Park Experience

- 24hr policing
- Beauty
- Beauty
- Cleanliness
- Cleanliness
- Relaxing
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Alive
- Beauty
- Being in nature
- Compartir tiempo en familia
- Dog
- Dog
- Dogs
- Dogs
- Exercise
- Exercise
- Family
- Family

- Family Celebration
- Fun
- Health
- I value quiet walks
- Joy
- Kids outside to play
- Outdoors
- Personal growth
- Physical fitness
- Place
- Play
- Playing ?
- Recreation
- Recreation
- Relaxation
- Sports
- Sunset
- Walking
- Youth

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Community
- Conservation
- Environment
- Environmental protection(water, air,natural resources)
- Fresh air
- Habitat
- Healthy environment
- Keep existing areas “natural”
- Less pollution from gas leaf blowers
- Natural environment
- Nature
- Nature
- Nature
- Nature
- Nature
- Nature
- Nature
- Nature
- Nature
- No more acquisition of open space

- Open space
- Open space
- Open space wildlife & habitat protection
- Planet
- Protection of wildlife habitat
- Quiet nature trees wildlife
- Recharge
- Respect for the beach
- Sustainability
- Sustainability
- Trees, water, canopy, trails, meadows
- Water Resources, Strategic turf, recharge
- Wildlife
- Wildlife
- Wildlife, wetlands & other riparian, protect marine plants & animals

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Accessibility
- Accessibility to open space
- Accessible
- Coexistence
- Connections web of parks accessible to all, clean well lighted, not traffic walk,run,roll
- Diversity
- Equity
- Inclusion
- Inclusion
- Inclusion
- Inclusion
- Inclusive
- Inclusive diversity
- Inclusivity
- Inclusivity
- Love
- Parks we can walk to
- Sharing

Engagement of the Local Community

- Appreciation
- Appreciation
- Community

- Community
- Community
- Community
- Community
- Community
- Community
- Community
- Community
- Connection
- Education
- Education
- Educational
- Engagement
- Learning
- Meeting people
- Music/arts
- People
- Respect
- respect
- Respectful
- Upward mobility

Vision

Quality of Park Experience

- Animal shelter needs to do its job. Enforce leash laws at beach
- Bathroom that are open & water faucets than work
- Compatible uses
- I can enjoy a picnic with a bottle of wine in natural setting
- Improved trails
- Inclusive safe open space for recreation & education
- Keep Parks clean
- More patrols to discourage drug use
- Park & Rec new motto : Do great job no matter what it takes
- Park Rangers
- S. C. county beaches have parking and bathrooms
- Safe, accessible open space as natural as possible, not overly developed

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- A system of spaces, open recreational that integrates our home, professional leisure lives

- Activities for people of all ages & abilities A park in every neighborhood
- Adjacent Land use with integrated transportation & form based zoning
- All parks linked by trail backbone
- All parks should have facilities for different ages
- Arts complex and amphitheater
- Community Gardens
- Dog friendly beach
- Dog friendly beaches
- Dogs allowed in all parks on leash
- Dogs can enjoy the beach off- leash anytime of day
- Dogs off leash
- Enjoyable spaces for everyone
- Escape society
- Expand Lake Moran
- Focus on physical activities not electronical
- Form based zoning
- I can hike trails with my dog (which makes me feel safe)
- Inspiring those that one played in to find interest outdoor spaces
- Large off-leash Dog Parks
- Learn a new skill or hobby
- More access to Moran butterfly habitat
- More neighborhood trails to coast
- More walking trails
- More walking trails
- Natural spaces where intergenerational group can mix
- No cars on East Cliff
- Off leash, alcohol, bonfires, fireworks somewhere for each
- Parks are designed to provide multiple benefits
- Parks can act as interface between people and nature
- Place for people of all ages do experience nature & fulfill potential
- Public places that allow varied form of recreation Provise space per people to be in nature and community and adaptable
- S.C. County has multiple youth centers well staffed and integrated with schools
- Swing in the parks
- There are neighborhood parks that are virgin land

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Butterflies protected and encouraged
- Feel one with the natural world
- Fewer eucalyptus trees & more native ones
- Keep Moran Lake Park and surrounding trails “natural’

- Keep Moran Lake Park and trail to 30th natural
- Large quiet natural open space parks that accommodate wildlife and people
- Maintain open spaces –Protect Habitat & wildlife
- Open Space connectivity for people & wildlife
- Open space is protected from development
- Protect Corcoran Lagoon & Beach
- Protect our parks
- Protect wildlife Habitat
- Trail from 30th to Moran Lake Keep natural
- Tree management

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Access for all abilities
- All parks accessible to all
- All segments of our community have equal access to parks & programs
- Balance and harmony in Participation
- Complete coastal access
- Every child should have access to every camp in the county
- Every person have place to go & connect with others or the outdoors
- Every person regardless of age or ability can access the public parks increase & enjoy
- Everyone can play together
- Green space nearby linked by trail & walk run, roll
- Invite everyone in the county to outdoor spaces close to home
- More community walkability
- Outreach to underrepresented community, to promote value of spaces, education and access to programs
- Residents can access safe, walk spaces w/in 1 mile from home –don't have to drive
- S c county parks offer inclusive activities & opportunities to play & share community in safe, clean, beautiful places
- Walkable access for all to each community

Engagement of the Local Community

- Connect people to nature
- Educate K-12 on the importance of Animal habitat
- Exposure to and learn other cultures
- Habitat video classes for kids
- Have people proud about the parks
- Have programs that are fun that teach nature info
- Meet people & make friends
- More programs for kids U6 yrs old and teenagers

- Neighbors notified before vision of parks i.d.
- People are less isolated from each other More community minded. value each other no "strangers"
- Program as despues de escuela
- Signage for multi languages

STATION #2

What parts of the County Parks system are most important to you and why?

Quality of Park Experience

- (2) County Parks are free
- 26th Avenue Moran Lake Trail could be cleaner but is a nice walk and great for dog walking
- Clean restrooms
- East Cliff walkway is nice, well signed and maintained
- Facilities are well maintained
- Garbage and bags for dog waste
- Lighting
- Moran Lake has good parking area
- Parks are wonderful – thank you!
- Police watch so community is secure
- Polo Grounds restrooms
- Restrooms at Moran Lake
- Security at parks
- Trees in parks

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- (2) diversity in the parks and something for everyone
- Amenities for kids like skate parks and play structures
- Aptos Community Park for renting
- Chanticleer pump track
- Community focused areas and outdoor community areas
- De La Veaga City Park
- Dog parks for big and small dogs
- East Cliff pedestrian and bike ways
- Frederick Street City park has nice combination of features and uses

- Jade Street Park
- Meeting facilities and venues for weddings
- Moran Lake Park nature trail an natural feeling
- Moran Lake trail and Pleasure Point
- Parks with specific draws such as skate features and basketball courts for kids and teens
- Places to be out of your car and active
- Playgrounds
- Playgrounds and beach access because I have kids
- Pleasure Point
- Series of trails
- Simpkins Family Swim Center
- Soccer fields at Polo Grounds
- The existing natural trail at Moran Lake is perfect as it is without additional development
- Trails, something for walking around in the park near our homes
- Trees, green spaces, community programs, classes

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- (2) Open space throughout the County
- Animal habitats for birds and other animals
- Bird habitat is important and having educational space for learning about birds
- Natural environment and access to nature, and covered trash cans to keep birds from eating trash
- Parks that are home to endangered species
- Protection of shorebirds

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Accessibility – county parks are easy to access
- Bathrooms that are accessible
- Low traffic
- Parks that I can walk to from my house
- Proximity of small parks such as Felt Street Park and Jade Street City Park

Engagement of the Local Community

- Chanticleer community involvement in interim park features

- Interpretive signs at beach access points and landscaping on East Cliff

What is missing?

Quality of Park Experience

- 26th Ave and Sunny Cove have lack of adequate security. Dogs are a hazard for children.
- Beach Parks not able to enforce rules, especially dogs off-leash
- Bring showers back to the Hook
- Cleanliness and safety in all parks. I don't let my kids take off their shoes in the parks
- Corcoran Lagoon is unattractive and not inviting. Dogs run off leash there.
- Debris from fallen eucalyptus should be cleared
- Dedicated funding for parks
- Enforcement of park rules
- Facilities could be open more consistently
- Facilities sometimes closed
- Important that the leash laws be enforced at all county parks and beaches
- Improved South County beach access and maintenance, especially the Via Palo Alto staircase to Beer Can Beach
- Keeping grass green and mowed for kids
- Maintenance staff does a great job but need more money for park upgrades
- More bathrooms
- More time for irrigation of fields and better quality fields
- More trash cans and cleanup for overnight dumping
- Need more staff and volunteers to do upkeep
- Need needle collection stations
- Need parks to be safe for children. For example Corcoran Lagoon is not safe because there are dogs there.
- No gas leaf blowers – use electric
- Not enough law enforcement of crime, drug addiction and homeless in parks
- Park rangers
- Park rangers to enforce park rules especially at Moran Lake beach
- Parks should all have individual character, not homogenized
- Posting and enforcing park rules
- Remove turf areas if not used, to make sure resources (water) are used to make fields nice and to maximize use
- Safety and cleanliness in parks and beaches so kids can run around safely
- Security – people don't feel safe in some parks

- Security and safety at Sunny Cove is bad
- State Park advocacy groups and County groups to work with State Parks
- Strategic placement of signs so they don't mess up natural beauty
- Swiss toilets have amazing technology
- Would be nice to see trail improvements at Moran Lake

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- (2) places for off-leash dogs
- Access on Miller Property for mountain biking
- All weather sports fields
- Another venue for groups like Quail Hollow ranch house building for meeting space
- Badminton
- Chanticleer Park needs inclusive playground, bathrooms, place for picnics and celebrations
- Climbing wall and things for older kids
- County Parks should take over the upper end of Moran Lake Park
- Hammocks
- Inclusive play structure at every park
- Inclusive playgrounds
- Integrate parks planning with the Sustainable Santa Cruz County Plan
- LEOs Haven at Chanticleer
- Missing vacant lots – used to be more
- Need legal off-leash beaches
- Obstacle course or more adventure facilities for kids to exercise.
- Open space park at 7th and Brommer
- Permanent pickleball courts
- Place where wine and picnicking is allowed
- Portable bike pump tracks
- Replacement for the loss of Post Office Jumps bike jump park in Aptos
- The bridge at the Farm Park and connection of the two sides of the park
- Trail connections between parks
- Turf fields and fields that are open all year and in all weather
- Vehicle charging stations

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Develop water collection and use rain water for restrooms

- Remove all eucalyptus and replace with natives

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Access for people with disabilities, especially beach access. Would like more inclusive walking trails on the beaches for children and adults
- Access from Palisades to Moran Trail
- Boardwalk to the beach
- Looking farther than what is required for ADA
- Rubber mats for access on beaches (similar to Twin Lakes State Beach)
- Transportation and land use integration

Engagement of the Local Community

- Educating the public with signs
- Interpretive signs about different habitats to educate people
- Monarch habitat and educational materials
- More educational signage similar to the Plover signs at Seabrite State Beach
- More information, signs and directional signs about parks themselves, especially information on animals
- Opportunities to volunteer including advertized work days in the parks
- Outreach to community for funding for County Parks specifically – there is confusion about city and state parks verses county
- Shakespeare in the park
- Signs in parks should be multi-lingual

STATION #3

What programs are most important to you and why?

Quality of Park Experience
None

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Everything at Quail Hollow Ranch
- Young adults, getting kids outside at younger ages

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources
None

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- No age group left out, though geographically may not be true

Engagement of the Local Community

- (2) Junior guards and junior leadership programs
- All ages are represented from babies to seniors
- April Pool's Day and taco truck on deck
- Aquatics programs are outstanding and have a good variety
- Interpretive programs
- Interpretive programs at Quail Hollow Ranch are top notch
- Intro to night hiking and night trails at Quail Hollow
- Parks and Rex and dogs in the pool event
- Percent for public art program
- Public art and County Government Center building art exhibits
- Public art programs
- Senior programs and trips
- Swimming and junior guards teach life saving skills
- Teen programs
- Teen programs and youth programs (teach life lessons and help youth get out energy and keep them busy)
- Youth programs for me and the community to get kids outside (develops brain and physical activity)

What is missing?

Quality of Park Experience

- Increased public safety with volunteer program at parks (like a neighborhood watch)
- Lighting in the parks and later open park hours

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- Coordinate with visitor center regarding beach habitat and wildlife

- Expanded community gardens
- Expanded data analysis of what is working in parks and programs
- Live Oak History House at 7th and Brommer
- Mobile rock climbing walls to move around county
- More walking places like East Cliff Drive
- Rail trail to link parks together
- Transportation – parks should be involved in developing the rail trail for active transportation
- Work towards inclusive playground

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources
None

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Bike path without cars
- Cover and lights to have expanded hours at the pool
- Increase hours at Simpkins Family Swim Center for working people including weekends
- Linking parks with trails to get to easily
- Longer pool hours
- More aquatic programs for low-income families. More scholarships
- More childcare at Simpkins Family Swim Center
- More gender balance for boys and girls in youth programs
- Options for kids with disabilities including swim programs. Many families are isolated. Inclusive playground at Chanticleer will be a good thing, but would like more play clubs and for classes for kids with disabilities including hikes and partnerships with other groups
- Programs that reflect population so everyone benefits from programs
- Scholarship program
- Secure bike lockers
- Shuttle service from park to park and program to program with wheelchair access
- Transporter to get places, or have more things in more areas

Engagement of the Local Community

- Add interpretive programs at Live Oak beaches (such as Sunny Cove, Moran Lake, Pleasure Point) including programs with schools
- Adult and senior activities including more open space opportunities, representation with docent led hikes and partnership opportunities with Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District.
- Adult triathlon like the kids one
- After-school programs for swimming
- Artist giving art lessons in parks

- Basketball courts and programs and classes on the courts
- Beach programs with kids to learn about habitat and acquaint kids with natural beach habitat
- Beer and wine events hosted by Parks Dept
- Classes and activities outside the mainstream (such as bike safety and skateboarding)
- Collaboration with schools during school field trips to parks (would teach stewardship and care for parks to youth)
- Concert series in local parks – big family events
- East Cliff Drive closure for activities and events
- Expand public art and parks with art, especially community-created art
- Expand Shoreline school aquatics programs and make more accessible
- Expand swimming programs
- Expanded teen programs
- Expanding first programs
- Fireworks on the 4th of July
- First Fridays are too crazy. Spread out more or have more frequently to get people downtown
- Historical walks
- Inclusion and having programs in parks
- Increase provided programs
- Info for tourists
- Integrate more population, including more outreach, with the goal that everyone should benefit from parks
- Interpretive programs at beaches
- Interpretive programs at the beach, could coordinate with NOAA and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
- Interpretive programs like the ones at Quail Hollow at other locations, including multi-generational programs
- Junior guards should be more available for equity of access
- Kite flying activities and crafts to make kites and then fly them
- Local history walks
- Make information more accessible so people know about all the programs
- More active partnerships with local schools and programs in schools
- More after-school programs
- More community involvement and say in what Parks Department does
- More info about historical connections per area
- More nature and interpretive programs
- More outreach to north and south county Spanish-speaking community
- More programs that are less expensive
- More walking programs like the Mall Walkers program
- Movies in the parks at night
- Music in the parks
- Off season events and activities
- Open streets events with no cars

- Outreach to Hispanic community and make programs affordable for that community
- Parks Department should be focused on amplifying collaborations with other agencies for programming
- Program capacity needs to be expanded as existing programs fill up so fast
- Programs that bring people away from technology and into open areas where they can learn about nature and be a part of that type of exposition
- Public art programs including more music and performance and more adult programs such as lectures and concerts
- Ramp up in the summer
- Safety elements of youth programming
- Soccer programs
- Soccer summer camps
- Subsidize field trips for school kids to visit parks
- Taco truck Tuesdays at Anna Jean Cummings Park – detour traffic away from mountains
- Technical classes and skills development - anyway to get volunteers to teach classes like woodshop and auto shop.
- Ways to combine programs for veterans and kids with disabilities
- Weekly activity and community gathering like an expanded farmers market
- Youth soccer programs and increased availability of fields, including introductions to coaches for all sports (including background checks)
- More post-it voting
- Planning meetings different orientation

STATION #4

Dot vote results

Q1	**Score**
Integrate Art in Public Spaces	1.73
Increase cleanliness	1.70
Increase Safety	2.07
Increase number of programs and events	2.28
Improve Management and conservation of natural resources	***2.32***
Improve general maintenance	1.81

Q2	**Score**
Create More Large Regional Parks	2.00
Add New Uses and Improvements	1.73
Provide Access to County-Owned Open Spaces	2.04
Improve and Add Amenities to Beaches and Coastal Access Points	2.03

Create and Improve trail connections between Parks	2.07
Create Additional Neighborhood Parks	***2.19***

Q3	**Score**
Increase Kids' After-School Programs	***2.45***
Increase Summer Programs for Kids and Teens	2.04
Increase Interpretive Programs	2.18
Increase Recreation Programs and trips for Adults and Seniors	2.00
Increase Classes	1.62
Increase Aquatics Programs	2.09
Increase Family-Focused Special Events	1.50

Comments

Quality of Park Experience

- Better restrooms for beaches
- Cleanliness and safety for children and families is top priority
- Concern about adequate funding
- Dog shower at beach
- Frederick Street port-potties attract homeless
- Good maintenance increases safety
- Homeless population in parks is biggest safety concern
- More shade areas in parks
- Need needle boxes at beaches
- No off-leash dogs on beach – enforce the law
- Park rangers to enforce rules
- Polo Grounds and Anna Jean Cummings Parks are safe.
- Real bathrooms at Greyhound Rock
- Restrooms needed at Corcoran Lagoon
- Safety and cleanliness are most important
- Senior citizens living in cars and using park facilities for services
- Swiss stainless steel bathrooms are nice
- Unsafe to have dogs off-leash
- Winkle Park has safety concerns with homeless population

Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation

- All weather access for sports fields
- Brommer and 7th St property should have more natural resources
- Designate a beach for off-leash dogs

- Let dogs run
- Off-leash dog parks
- Prioritize walking trails (3)
- Quiet spaces for birding, etc, for example at Anna Jean Cummings Park
- Remove dogs off-leash at Corcoran Lagoon
- Sports fields
- Trails for walking and biking are most important

Stewardship and Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Habitat protection at beaches
- No mountain bike trails in natural areas or open spaces
- Storm water projects in parks

Accessibility of Parks and Programs

- Improve accessibility at Moran Lake
- Increase after-school programs in low-income areas
- San Lorenzo Valley sidewalks and trail connections

Engagement of the Local Community

- Corcoran Lagoon interpretive program
- Family swim lessons
- Ghost walks at Halloween
- Interpretive and educational signage at beaches (2)
- More thorough hiring process to vet volunteers
- Outreach to schools to inform about programs
- Watershed signage even in developed areas
- Work with high schools so kids can get volunteer hours

GENERAL COMMENTS

None