

**Palo Alto Comprehensive Plan Amendment
Community Services Element Review
October 4th, 2011 Key Stakeholders Meeting Notes**

Community use of public lands

1. Consider a municipal "art plan" that includes places and spaces that accommodate public art.
 2. Use of Byxbee - Several had no opinion. One suggested combo of active and passive use.
 3. More temporary art at the Baylands.
 4. Suggestion to divide trail at Baylands for bikes and pedestrians.
 5. More wheelchair accessible trails.
 6. Encourage teens to spend time in nature
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4. Community use of public lands

4a)

1. Neighborhood orientated space
 2. Smaller neighborhood park vs larger community parks
 3. Pocket parks – taking a break – Lytton Plaza
 4. Cafes, restaurant/ food available at natural preservations
 5. Using natural lands as gathering
 6. Types of food/menu catering to all
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1.1 Community use of public lands

1. What suggestions do you have for adapting our existing neighborhood parks (2 – 5 acres) to better utilize the park space for recreational and family uses (for example, less picnic areas, larger children’s playgrounds, etc.)?
2. Should the Baylands Preserve be used for more active recreational activities or for more wildlife conservation? What criteria should City use to decide on the right mix of uses?
 1. Do a survey of the parks based on their usage and capacity. Write a policy based on that.
 2. All neighborhood parks must have restroom facilities.
 3. Add separate facilities for kids with disabilities.
 4. Baylands need more protection. Conserve Baylands as a wildlife refuge area.
 5. Shoreline Park used by different demographics, its usage is different from Bayland. Maintain it that way.
 6. Write a policy to enhance existing use and create other usages for both Baylands and Shoreline Park, but protect the natural eco systems.
 7. Improve accessibility to the Shoreline Park and Baylands and add parking facilities for any added usage.

COMMUNITY USE OF PUBLIC LAND

1. More public gathering/meeting space
2. Accessibility for all ages, not just disabled. Also, play structures for different age groups- timeless/ageless.
3. Activities for all ages at same location → for entire family
 - a. Example: Tree house at Foothills Park for kids, bridges, rock structures
 - b. Make each location appealing to all age groups/entire family.
4. Make play structures timeless → no bright colors, natural/earth tones
 - a. Simplicity, allow children's minds to imagine
5. Revert back to learning about nature
6. Value → Play and Nature
7. Enjoyable, safe experience most important
8. Issue = Homeless in Parks
9. Parks need bathrooms
10. Park amenities done right is the draw (example: skate park in Redwood City is a thriving and popular facility. Don't just build it, get community input into what residents want to ensure facility is well used)
11. Passive, open play space is desired as well.
12. Comprehensive Plan – park size, small pocket parks are good. A small green space that is in walking distance can be very valuable and enjoyable
13. Performance outdoor space needed