

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS I
Office of the City Clerk

City Council of the City of Napa
Regular Meeting

May 19, 2020

FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPA:

AFTERNOON SESSION:

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Email from Jana Jack received on May 12, 2020.
- Email from Deryn Milarezi received on May 13, 2020.
- Email from Ben Bergfelt received on May 13, 2020.
- Email from Trish Trolley received on May 13, 2020.*
- Email from Diane Dexter received on May 13, 2020.
- Email from Sue Osborn received on May 13, 2020.
- Email and two attachments from Dave Perazzo received on May 13, 2020.
- Email from Tammy Duda received on May 13, 2020.
- Email from Jeremy Sarrow received on May 13, 2020.
- Email from Lydia Sarrow received on May 13, 2020.
- Email from Kristy Reynolds received on May 13, 2020.
- Email from Leslie Gevurtz received on May 14, 2020.
- Email from Beth Wagner received on May 14, 2020.
- Email from Mary Wiley received on May 14, 2020. *
- Email from John and Susan Sobleman received on May 14, 2020.
- Email from Anne Sutkowi-Hemstreet received on May 14, 2020.
- Email from Sheryl Mitchell received on May 14, 2020.
- Email from Kimberly Ward received on May 14, 2020.
- Email from Christina Benz received on May 17, 2020. *
- Email from Terry Tracy received on May 18, 2020. *
- Email from Eric Aldous received on May 18, 2020. *
- Email from John Schmidt received on May 18, 2020.
- Email from Karl Johnson received on May 18, 2020.
- Email from Susan Crosby received on May 18, 2020.
- Email from Elizabeth Sanford received on May 18, 2020.
- Email from M Brook Youdell received on May 18, 2020.
- Email from Karen Peters received on May 18, 2020.
- Email from Jayme Witmore received on May 18, 2020.
- Email and attachment from Patrick Band received on May 18, 2020.
- Email from Jessica Day received on May 18, 2020. *
- Email from Dave Kearney-Brown received on May 18, 2020.*
- Email from Samantha Hamilton received on May 18, 2020.*
- Email from Randy Gulate received on May 18, 2020.
- Email from John Glasser received on May 19, 2020. *
- Email from Jennifer Freskan received on May 19, 2020. *
- Email from Darlene Scott received on May 19, 2020.
- Email from Jason Servatius received on May 19, 2020. *
- Email from Rebecca Kotch received on May 19, 2020. *
- Email from Eric Murray received on May 19, 2020. *
- Email from Rachel Perkovich received on May 19, 2020.
- Email from Mark Crowdis on received on May 19, 2020. *
- Handwritten Comments from Norma Gabellini received on May 19, 2020. *
- Email from Celeste Mirassou received on May 19, 2020.
- Email from Linda Brown received on May 19, 2020. *
- Email from David Mahaffey received on May 19, 2020. *
- Email from Samantha Holland received on May 19, 2020. *

5. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

5.A. Proclamation of Local Emergency to Respond to the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

- Email and attachment from Rodney Nickens received on May 15, 2020.

****EMAIL OR HANDWRITTEN COMMENTS WILL BE READ INTO THE RECORD BY CITY STAFF
DURING THE MEETING.***

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3.Public Comment

From: Jena Jack

From: [Jana Jack](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Save Our Park and Rec Department
Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 9:36:50 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Mayor and Members of Napa City Council -

As a native Napan, I am very concerned about the news articles regarding our Napa Park and Recreation Department and the cutbacks that they could be experiencing.

I grew up working for our Park and Rec Department. I began working as a swim instructor for 3 summers at Ridgeview Jr. High in the mid 1960's - moved on to being a Summer Playground Leader for 3 summers. I was hired to run the Tiny Tots program for many summers after I received my Elementary teaching credential. I was fortunate to keep working for Park and Rec for years teaching the Crafts for Me and Mom or Dad classes to bring art into children's lives without the mess at home. Overall, I worked as a part-time employee for about 40 years of my life. I currently volunteer for your Park committee -evaluating the local parks in Napa.

Napa needs to have a visible and viable park and Rec program! My late mother, Juanita Gonsalves, worked for Glenn DuBose, director of Napa Recreation Office in the 60's. My late father, Al Gonsalves and my late husband, Mike Jack volunteered their time and energy as Directors of the Park and Rec committee. They fought to make Napa's program one that worked for the community. Over the years, the program has grown and needs to be able to continue serving all community residents.

Back in the 60's residents were given the opportunity to have children learn to swim free of charge. Instructors were paid \$1.25 per hour to teach swim lessons and lifeguard during the afternoon free swim. The School District, the City, and the county had their tri-powered agreement to use facilities. I realize commitments change and people move on. Our Napa residents now pay for everything that's involved with Park and Rec.

Please consider what effect losing our Park and Rec Department will have on 79,000 people in Napa. Children need activities to keep them motivated. The City brochure is full of wonderful activities for all walks of life. Our life in Napa is something that many people seem and want for their families. It's a great place to live while growing up. The Park and Recreation Department help make Napa a very appealing place to live.

Please think about what living in Napa means to you and your family and how this department has helped you.

Thank you for your time as Mayor and Council Members. Make the decision that keeps Napa a special place to live, work, and play!

Sincerely,

Jana Gonsalves Jack

██████████
Napa, CA 94558
██████████

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Deryn Milarezi

From: [Deryn Milarezi](#)

To: [Clerk](#)

Subject: Parks and Rec Cuts

Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 9:17:29 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Hello,

I have lived in Napa for most of my almost 40 years of life. I am raising two children here (4,6). I am active in our parks and outdoor spaces. I go to the lighted arts festival and enjoy the oxbow commons area and community concerts with my family. Bocce, the wiggle room, dance classes, swimming, and karate have all been activities that we have cherished. There are so few options already for families in this community. I understand that we have large shortfalls due to a lack of tourism but this county is already so short on positive activities for children and families that I fear further cuts would make it too inhospitable to bear.

Additionally there is a large and exponentially growing homeless population that lives in and frequents our public spaces. Parks and Rec staff have warned me not to take my young children to the bathrooms as there are often people sleeping in them. They clean up after these people in the early morning so the community has a sanitary and safe place to exist. Without these people on our payroll I fear our public spaces will deteriorate into an unusable state.

I know that this valley is run on tourism but there has to be space for those of us who make our lives here.

Thank you for your consideration.

Deryn Milarezi


Sent from my iPhone

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Ben Bergfelt

From: [BEN BERGFELT](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Concerned Citizen - Parks and Rec Cuts
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 12:21:36 PM

[EXTERNAL]

City of Napa - Clerk,

I'm sending this message to voice my concern with cuts planned for our Parks and Recreation Department. While I understand our community is facing a budget deficit due to the recent health issues, this department is vital to the residents in Napa Valley.

My family and myself have attended many classes through this department, and enjoyed the events planned via Parks and Rec. Most currently their posts on Facebook, sharing stories, online events and ideas for young children has been a life saver. Without the staff to continue these efforts, our residents will suffer.

I trust the City Council will make every effort to save our Parks and Recreation Department and find other ways to balance the budget.

Thank you -

Marilane Bergfelt

 Napa

City Council Meeting
5/19/2020
Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment
From: Trish Trolley

From: [Trish Trolley](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Cc: [Aleen Kovack](#)
Subject: Department of Parks and Rec and Council Meeting tonight - can be read into record.
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 12:34:31 PM

[EXTERNAL]

We would like this to be part of the record.

We are writing this letter to voice our concern regarding the lay-offs in the Dept of Parks and Recreation. While we do understand that there are major budget shortfalls that need to be dealt with, decimating a single department that has such an impact on our community may be short sighted. This team touches and influences so many lives, the impact is immeasurable.

Just over three years ago we were searching for a new home. During our search our realtor, Stefan Jezycki, spent a lot of time talking to us about how much of a community Napa has as well as the quality of the parks that are here. **This** is the reason we moved to Napa and not another town. The activities and events that are organized and presented all go into creating that atmosphere that was/is so important to us.

We purchased our home in Nov of 2017 and moved here in Jan 2018. As soon as we moved we used the Department of Parks and Recreations pamphlet to find ways to meet people in the community, in our case this translated to corn hole. While we did sign up for the summer league, we were lucky there were still spaces in the spring league and Dan Opperman was kind enough to contact us and add us to the earlier league. That league was invaluable to us in the ability to meet some new people and make some friends outside of our neighborhood.

In addition to the programs that are run by the Parks and Rec, the major events like the Lighted Arts Festival provide us locally with an extraordinary opportunity to experience things much larger than ourselves. In addition, it brings a lot of revenue to the town that would not otherwise be there.

We know that Napa, like the rest of the world will be different as we come out of this pandemic and economic downturn, we think it is even more important that we maintain a strong community and have programs that bring us together and that our park system remains well maintained. In addition, it seems like the major events that bring in business and tax revenue will be even more important to have well orchestrated once we are able to have them again.

We ask you to reconsider the lay-offs in the Department of Parks and Rec and look to find ways to spread the shortfall more broadly.

Trish and Aleen


City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Diane Dexter

From: [Diane Dexter](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Proposed cuts to Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 2:08:36 PM

[EXTERNAL]

As a homeowner in Napa, I am opposed to cuts to the Dept. of Parks and Recreation. Cuts to this department will negatively affect the quality of life for people in our community. The programs offered by the Department of Parks and Recreation have been a drawing card for our city. When people are considering a move to an area, they look at the programs that are available in the community. Also, I would guess that the majority of homeowners in Napa oppose these cuts. I state this because I have yet to speak with anyone who thinks these proposed cuts are a good idea.

Respectfully,
Diane Dexter

City Council Meeting
5/19/2020
Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment
From: Sue Osborn

From: [Sue Osborn](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Napa Parks and Recreation Cuts
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 2:27:12 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Do not make cuts to the Department of Napa Parks and Recreation. People need what is provided by this department especially during this time of difficulty!

Citizens are visiting parks much more right now because of the need to get out of their homes and be outdoors thus they are becoming aware how beneficial the parks are.

Now, more than ever, is the time to garner citizens' support and appreciation for the services provided by Department of Napa Parks and Recreation. By cutting back these services, that support and appreciation will be lost now and in the future.

Sue

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Dave Perazzo

From: Dave Perazzo [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 12:15 PM

To: Mary Luros <mluros@cityofnapa.org>; Liz Alessio <lalessio@cityofnapa.org>; Doris Gentry <dgentry@cityofnapa.org>; Scott Sedgley <ssedgley@cityofnapa.org>; Jill Techel <jtechel@cityofnapa.org>; Steve Potter <spotter@cityofnapa.org>

Subject: Help Save Parks & Recreation

[EXTERNAL]

Honorable Mayor and members of the City Council,

I am writing you as a proud community member regarding the recent discussion on proposed changes to City services. We are all aware the effects related to the Corona Virus outbreak are unprecedented and have impacted the community in ways that no one could ever imagine. It is fully understandable that when the Country is asked to shelter in place and non-essential businesses are closed, the economic impacts will eventually have a ripple effect on revenue that the City utilizes to provide services to the community. Having worked in government for 3 decades I fully understand that difficult choices need to be made to address budget shortfalls now and in the coming years.

As your former Parks and Urban Forestry Manager, I write in support of Parks and Recreation and what the department does for the community. I do realize that all City services are important to the community and being impacted but wanted to provide some history and background on previous staffing cuts and impacts to Parks and Recreation. In 2010-11 the City faced a similar budget deficit that required deep cuts. All departments were tasked with reducing budgets, with many cuts coming from reductions in staffing. Parks and Recreation cut 9 full time positions. 7 in Parks, 1 in Admin and 1 in Recreation. At that time, employees close to retirement were offered an early retirement package as an option to layoffs. 8 choose that option and 1 person in recreation took a demotion to a vacant position. The vacant positions were then frozen and later eliminated. The result of this reduction in staffing severely impacted the services provided to the community. Parks had to be categorized as an A, B or C rating and serviced at those levels. Reduction in mowing, trash and cleaning of parks, open spaces and public right of ways was severely reduced. Information was published about the reductions, but most of the community seemed to be unaware of the cuts and complaints were prevalent. Staff took the brunt of the complaints and moral was low for some time.

In retrospect to today, in 2010 the City only maintained 50 parks, did not maintain the downtown, trail networks, the landscaped assessment districts, or provide events such as the Lighted Art Festival as they do today. As the economy improved staffing levels were restored but only with the caveat that they would support new areas of responsibility. This included such areas as China Point, the Oxbow Commons, the Vine Trail, the hanging basket program, landscape districts, Main Street boat dock and the 10-mile sidewalk/tree program. Recreation programs and special events also have increased, and popularity has grown requiring additional staff support from Parks and Recreation staff. In addition, the homeless population in Napa has increased requiring a higher level of maintenance to clean parks, trails and open spaces utilized by these unfortunate individuals and their camps. All these tasks are performed by a department with a fixed amount of devoted staff that care about their community.

It is my understanding that what is proposed for Parks and Recreation is to cut 11 Parks staff and 4 Recreation staff and split the department between Public Works (Parks) and Community Development (Recreation). The impacts of this type of staffing reduction and department split will be devastating to the staff that remain and impact the entire community. I have attached a map with the locations of parks throughout the community and an org chart that shows the team that takes care of those areas.

This illustrates what the department maintains and with how many staff. What is not shown on the map is the urban forest, public right of ways and landscape assessments. These too are maintained by the same staff.

My point being that if staffing levels are reduced, scheduled maintenance efforts will no longer be attainable and the parks and urban forestry maintenance will go into reactionary and triage mode. Additional levels of park maintenance at D and F levels would need to be added, repairs to playgrounds, tree pruning, graffiti removal and vandalism delayed and public access to some areas may be restricted until maintenance could be addressed. I provide this insight from what we experienced from staff reductions in 2010-11.

The City has made some significant investments with all staff. Collectively all departments went through the E3 training and prior to that, Parks and Recreation staff participated in a department management plan titled "Imua" (to move forward with strength) and operations efficiency plan. All of this effort and investment in staff will be wasted if staffing levels are significantly reduced and the department is split. As other departments may also be reducing staff there will be no option for others to take on those responsibilities as the needs arise. As our world begins to open-up we realize there will be a new normal, but people will eventually get out into our parks, trails open spaces and the downtown. The community, businesses and those who visit Napa will have an expectation that these areas are maintained to some acceptable level. Events and programs will also eventually return, and the public will be waiting. It will take a coordinated effort and unified Parks and Recreation department to deliver these programs and services once again.

I realize that there is no easy answer and that cost must be controlled until a time that revenue/budget can support City services. City staff and the executive team demonstrated that they are looking at all avenues and funding sources and you as a Council have already made some difficult choices related to delaying projects and utilizing reserves. Prior Councils, the City and bargaining groups negotiated temporary reductions in pay, freezing vacancies, furloughs, and closure days to address similar budget shortfalls. Staff understood the issues at hand and agreed to such concessions to help the City and retain resources to provide community services. As a good leader the City manager demonstrated this himself and I know that many staff respect that and follow the lead by example work ethic. I believe that there are many staff willing to do so at this crucial time.

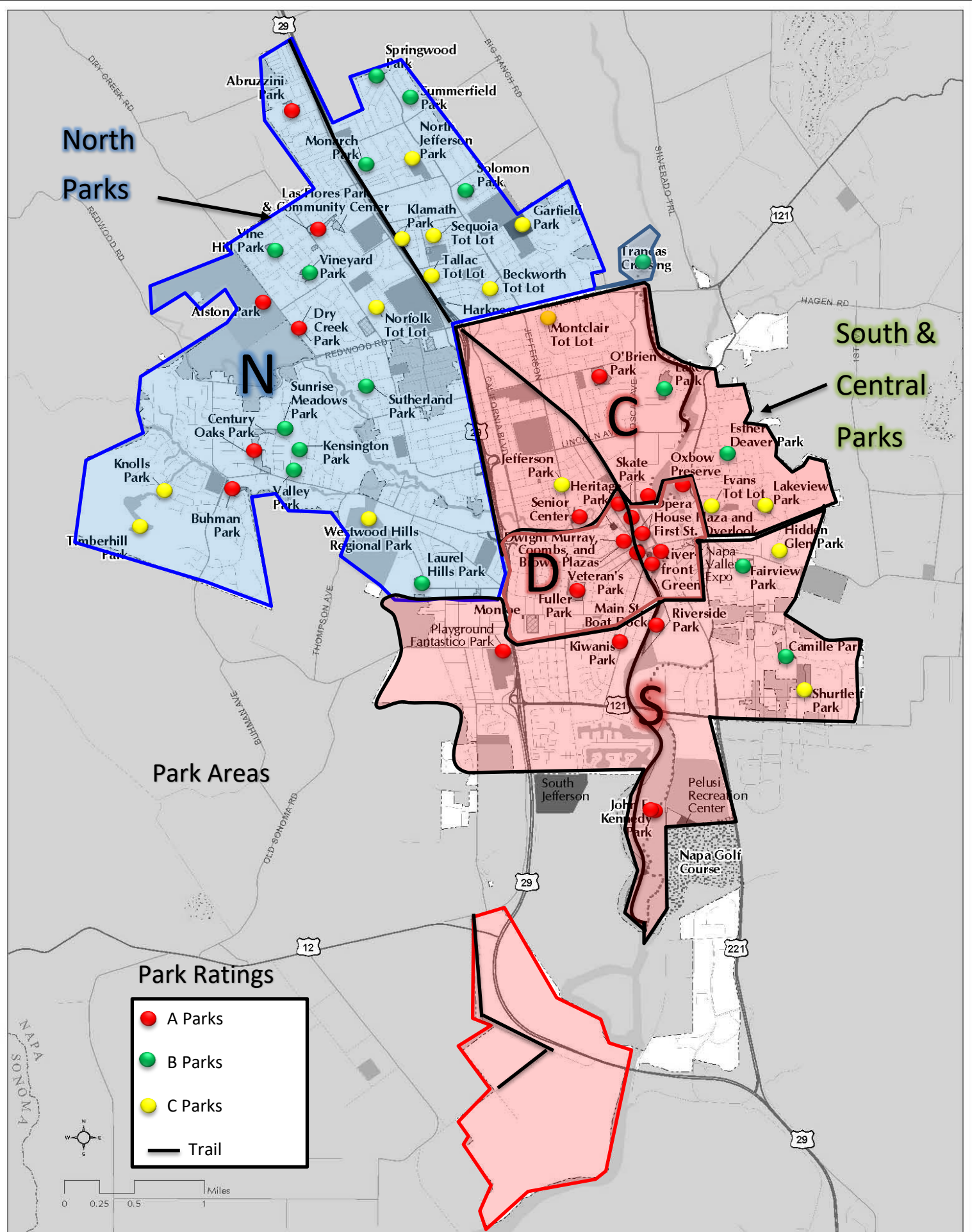
The most important part of the City of Napa is the people that work for the City and support the community. From the City Manager to the front-line Maintenance Laborer everyone has an important role. Working for or representing a public entity such as a City is not an easy job. Many people who pay taxes and vote feel that they have a say or some control over what you do. Just as you have chosen to represent the community, many staff have chosen to serve the community by working for the City. The City of Napa has a strong workplace family that is committed to providing a high level of customer service to the community.

I genuinely care about the City and staff and ask that you look at all options and look to staff at all levels for input before making final decisions that will have a lasting effect on our community.

Sincerely,

Dave Perazzo – resident- [REDACTED]
Retired - Parks and Urban Forestry Manager 2007-2020

Park Maintenance Areas





PARKS DIVISION

November 2019



Parks & Urban
Forestry Manager
Jeff Gittings

Senior Office
Assistant
Luz Loney



North Parks -ROW

Parks Supervisor
Dave Youdell



North Parks
PMW III
Alex Isler



ROW/Trails/LAD
PMWIII
Ken Rutherford

Volunteer Program
1 Volunteer
Coordinator



PMW II
Jorge Topete



PMW II
Dan Casey

Park Ranger Program
1 Lead Ranger
4 Rangers



Laborer
Ismael Saldivar



Laborer
Matt D

Seasonal -2
45211

Seasonal 2

Mowing

ROW

Park
Rangers

Pest Control

LAD/TAD

Volunteers

Open space

Weed
Abatement

Education

Trails

Pesticide
Inventory

Open Space
Management

Playgrounds

Homeless

Central & South Parks

Parks Supervisor
Derek Traya



Irrigation
PMWIII- Ricardo
45211



South Parks
PMW III
John Mort



Central Parks
PMW III
Jose Alvarez



DT/Weekends
PMWIII
David Orozco



PMWII
Vacant 45211



PMW I
Glen Grimstad



PMW II
Steve Bradley



PMW I
Val Amado



Laborer
Efen Sotelo



Seasonal -2



PMWI
Derek Loring



Seasonal-2



Laborer
Norma
45211

Napa Valley
Support Services

Seasonal 2
45211

Irrigation
Program

Mowing

Trails

Recycled
Water

Pest Control

Mowing

Plan Review

Ballfields
Playgrounds

Pest Control

Standards

Trails
Weed Abate
Homeless

Plazas

Picnic Res.
Mowing

Ballfields
Plazas

Projects
Hanging Baskets

Restrooms
Playgrounds

Homeless

Urban Forestry

Urban Forestry
Supervisor
John Hedderman



Urban Forestry
PMW III
Sam Glenn



PMWII
Joe Zapata



PMWII
Dawn Owens



PMWII
Kevin Phillips



PMW I
Ramon Ruiz

Seasonal 2

Tree
Contractors

Street Tree Program

Park Tree Program

PW Programs

Tree Contracts

Reforestation Program

Plan Review /IDR

Standby

City Council Meeting
5/19/2020
Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment
From: Tammy Duda

From: Tammy Duda <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 6:49:25 PM

To: Mary Luros <mluros@cityofnapa.org>; Scott Sedgley <SSedgley@cityofnapa.org>;
dhentry@cityofnapa.org <dhentry@cityofnapa.org>; Liz Alessio <lalessio@cityofnapa.org>; Jill Techel
<jtechel@cityofnapa.org>

Subject: Parks and Recreation Department

[EXTERNAL]

Dear City Council,

Recently in the Napa Valley Register there was an article about the coming budget and potential future layoffs-particularly for the Parks and Recreation department.

As a parent, I urge the council members to really consider all this department does for our city and for our children. My child and so many of his friends have attended camps (be it outdoors, sports, acting, etc.) over the summer and over breaks through the Parks & Recreation Dept. There are not many affordable options in Napa for kids as far as activities go, and if these safe, affordable options start to disappear for people I worry about what kinds of things our children/youths will be getting into instead.

My family's experiences with Parks & Rec for the several years that we've been utilizing them have all been outstanding. My son has made lasting friendships, looks up to the camp leaders, or leaders in training "LIT's", and has genuinely loved every activity we sign him up for through Parks & Rec- even something as simple as "Open Gym" at Las Flores Center. I know I'm not the only parent who relies on this department and the services it provides.

If we dissolve this department and these activities are no longer available for our children, what else will they do? What does that say about our community and our values if we are not thinking of our children first?

And I am only speaking to one small part of what the Parks and Recreation department does for this community-I know there are countless other things, such as park maintenance, that will affect adults and kids alike.

I honestly hope that when the council members meet to make a final vote, they take the community members' concerns regarding losing this department into consideration. I can't imagine the kids losing out on much more this year.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Tammy Duda

Sent from my iPhone

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Jeremy Sarrow

From: [jsarrow.s](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Parks and Rec Department
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 11:39:55 PM

[EXTERNAL]

As a 15 year resident of the City of Napa I'm asking City Counsel members to please reconsider laying off staff and reducing services related to the Parks and Recreation Division. During these times of uncertainty the various parks throughout the City of Napa are one of the few places citizens can find a place of solace. The Parks and Recreation Division is an essential service to the City's livelihood and the City must look else where to save money.

Regards,

Jeremy Sarrow
Browns Valley resident

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Lydia Stiltz Sarrow

From: [Lydia S](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Parks and Recreation
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 11:40:47 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Hello,

I'm writing in regards to the possible reduction of Napa's parks and recreation department. This is an invaluable resource to all age groups and demographics in our our community. Many school age children play sports sponsored through this department and it provides community members as a whole much needed services and outlets. It would be a complete disservice to our town to reduce the staff and programs. I know the City is trying to reallocate funds and reduce spending but this an essential service to our town and community. Please consider other methods to reduce costs. Perhaps a fall ballot measure to cover future costs and for some reserve in case of another future event

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lydia Stiltz Sarrow

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Kristy Reynolds

From: KRISTY REYNOLDS <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 12:24:38 PM

To: Liz Alessio <lalessio@cityofnapa.org>

Subject: Parks and Rec

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Council Member Alessio,

Having affordable access to high quality programs like the ones Napa Parks and Rec provides is as ESSENTIAL as it gets. Parks and Rec Activities help keep people engaged, mentally healthy and involved in the community. Napa city council needs to continue to care about the mental and physical health of all people in our community. Honestly I was shocked when I heard Parks and Rec was going to be cut. Not in any part of my imagination did I think that this was something that COULD be cut from a city budget! I realize this is an emotional decision, but cutting Parks and Rec would be a HUGE disservice to our community.

Families can barely afford to live here as it is, let alone pay a ton for activities for our kids. My kids are grown, but they thrived in many Parks and Rec activities from Little Rascals (with Ms Linda) to sports, music and more. With families already struggling, what will they be able to afford for their children? Many cannot afford elite sports teams and private music lessons.

I don't know if my writing will make a difference. I don't know what I can say to shock you in to changing your minds about this. And I get it. You have to make some really tough decisions right now. But don't cut this. Don't cut this essential part of our community. It's like cutting out the heart of the community.

Linda and her entire team need to stay for the greater good of our community.

Thank you Parks and Rec for being an amazing, essential part of our community!

Please hear the pleas of the community!

Sincerely,

Kristy Reynolds

[REDACTED]

Napa, CA 94559

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Leslie Gevurtz

From: [Leslie Gevurtz](#)

To: [Clerk](#)

Subject: Parks and Rec

Date: Thursday, May 14, 2020 12:28:52 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Please reconsider your decision to dismantle the Parks and Rec Department. We need this, as is, to continue the excellent work they do for our community.

Sincerely,

Leslie Gevurtz

Sent from my iPhone

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Beth Wagner

From:

To:

[Clerk](#)

Subject:

Parks & Rec

Date:

Thursday, May 14, 2020 12:40:05 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Please do not shut down this department or cut back too much. Our city and residents need some resources during these challenging times.

Thank you,

Beth Wagner

Napa resident and home owner since 1980.

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Dr. Mary Wiley

From: [Mary Wiley](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: PLEASE READ INTO THE RECORD
Date: Thursday, May 14, 2020 1:18:49 PM

[EXTERNAL]

I am a resident and active participant in the Park and Recreation activities. I just learned that there is a high likelihood that the entire department will be eliminated. Please do not make such a significant mistake. As a resident and professional in this beautiful Napa Valley I look forward to the sense of community the Park and Recreation's Department has worked so hard to build and sustain over the years. The events like Third Thursdays, the Adult Corn Hole league, the Oxbow River Stage, the Napa Lighted Art Festival, and many of the other events and programs are well planned, executed and enjoyed by so many people residents and non-residents. These gatherings imbue Napa with culture drive revenue and most importantly bring us together as a community.

Had it not been for these events I would not have moved to Napa, married my spouse or moved my entire business here. Given these difficult times I cannot imagine a better way to bring our disconnected community back together when conditions allow us to do so.

Again please do not eliminate the Park and Recreation Department.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary Wiley

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: John and Susan Sobelman

From: [Susan Sobelman](#)

To: [Clerk](#)

Subject: Opposition to eliminating Parks and Recreation Department

Date: Thursday, May 14, 2020 2:56:08 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Totally opposed to this budget cut as a tax payer. John and Susan Sobelman
Sent from my iPhone

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Anne Sutkowi- Hemstreet

From: Anne Sutkowi-Hemstreet <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 12:44:05 PM

To: Liz Alessio <lalessio@cityofnapa.org>

Subject: Families Need Napa Parks and Recreation

[EXTERNAL]

Hi Liz,

I hope this email finds you well and healthy. I am emailing you in regards to your upcoming decision about cuts to the Napa Parks and Recreation department that could have dire consequences for the families who live in and are trying to thrive in Napa.

As a mother of two young children, (prior to the shelter in place) we utilized Napa parks EVERY. SINGLE. DAY. My children love being outdoors and our parks are beautiful! We hike at Timber Hill, Westwood Hills, and Alston Park. We bring bikes and lunch down to Oxbow Commons and spend hours there. We host Rainbow Play Dates at Fuller Park, Playground Fantastico, and Century Oaks. We walk to Buhman Park from our house nearly every day.

My older child is just at the age when we were getting ready to enroll her in recreation classes through Napa Parks and Recreation. She loves music, dancing and acting and playing sports and swimming and we were excited to take advantage of the affordable, high quality programs the City provides for families. For many families, these are the ONLY programs they can afford.

I am requesting two things today.

1. Transparency about what services and programs would be cut given the large staff cuts that are proposed to take place. Do you have a plan for keeping the parks safe and clean for my children? Or are should we soon expect to find dirty needles and empty beer containers on the playground equipment? Will there be enough staff to continue providing affordable and quality recreational classes and camps for children?

2. Please consider using your reserves to maintain the services and programming that Napa Parks and Rec provides. Families continue to leave Napa because they can't afford to live here. More and more families will leave if you also take away our clean and safe parks and programming that enriches our children's lives AND allows us to work during the summer (summer camps are essential!)

Thank you for taking the time to read my email and I appreciate your consideration in making sure Napa Parks and Rec can continue providing our community the clean and safe parks and quality recreation programming that help us thrive!

Best,

Anne

--

Anne Sutkowi-Hemstreet, MPH

Weathervane Consulting

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

From: Mitchgirl [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 3:31 PM
To: Clerk
Subject: Parks and Recreation

[EXTERNAL]

Hello,

I am a home owner in Napa and have learned about the possible doom of a branch of the Parks and Recreation division. I feel cutting that group would make Napa a less desirable place to visit and live. That group works hard to make every event they cater enjoyable. Please reconsider and look at other cost saving options.

Respectfully,

Sheryl Mitchell

Sent from Mitchgirl's iPhone

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Kimberly Ward

From: [Kimberly Ward](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Napa's Park and Recreation
Date: Thursday, May 14, 2020 4:50:49 PM

[EXTERNAL]

To Whom It May Concern,

Please do not cut or down size the Park and Recreation department. I have always thought of Napa as a family oriented community with outdoor activities and sports for all ages. It has certainly been a big part of my life whether for myself, my children, and now my grandchildren.

Please think of the importance of keeping our children, our future, physically, mentally, and creatively fit.

Sincerely,
Kim Ward

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Kimberly Ward

From: [Kimberly Ward](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Napa's Park and Recreation
Date: Thursday, May 14, 2020 4:50:49 PM

[EXTERNAL]

To Whom It May Concern,

Please do not cut or down size the Park and Recreation department. I have always thought of Napa as a family oriented community with outdoor activities and sports for all ages. It has certainly been a big part of my life whether for myself, my children, and now my grandchildren.

Please think of the importance of keeping our children, our future, physically, mentally, and creatively fit.

Sincerely,
Kim Ward

City Council Meeting
5/19/2020
Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment
From: Chris & Jason Benz

From: [Christina Benz](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR MAY 19, 2020 MEETING—PLEASE READ
Date: Sunday, May 17, 2020 4:01:47 PM

[EXTERNAL]

For: Public Comment

From: Chris and Jason Benz, [REDACTED], Napa

First, we would like to express our appreciation and admiration for City Manager Potter and the other City staff members who have volunteered to take a pay cut and forego cost of living increases to help with the financial crisis due to COVID-19. You, on the Council and on the City staff, are having to make very difficult decisions on our behalf.

Second, we urge you to make an easy decision for a **low-cost, big-impact** program that will contribute to improved public health and reduced climate impact. And that program is the “Slow Streets” program proposed by the Napa County Bicycle Coalition. During the Shelter-In-Place order, we’ve spent more time biking and walking because it was safer with less traffic. The “Slow Streets” program would allow residents to keep walking and rolling by creating safer routes even when traffic resumes. Slow Streets will promote active transportation and reduce GHG emissions at a very low cost—a win-win for everyone.

Third, the win can be even bigger if the no-traffic zones include the downtown area, and allow restaurants to set up outside seating, as proposed by Chris Blanchard in a May 15 Napa Register Letter to the Editor. Tracking of COVID—19 infections has shown that most occur in indoor spaces with limited air circulation. It would be far safer, and more rewarding financially, to let restaurants place their tables outside, than to require them to host a reduced number of diners inside.

Finally, we know the pandemic and a slow recovery will be with us for the foreseeable future. You can help that recovery by having Napa become the safest “Ride and Dine” destination in the Bay Area by adopting a Slow Streets program.

Thank you.

From: Terry Tracy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 8:49 AM
To: Clerk
Subject: COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR MAY 19, 2020 MEETING - PLEASE READ

Categories: Unverified Contact

[EXTERNAL]

Dear council members,

I think it is very short sighted to just single out the Parks & Rec Department for the majority of the budget cuts. This is a very important area for the life of Napa citizens and the services provided will never recover even if this crisis is short lived. This action will be a huge detriment to future life in Napa. Please take the time to do even and considered cuts. Don't be lazy and just single out the Parks & Rec Department.

Thanks,
Terry Tracy
[REDACTED]

Napa, CA 94559

From: eric aldous <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 11:32 AM
To: Clerk
Subject: please read in comments to city council for may 19, 2020 meeting

Categories: Unverified Contact

[EXTERNAL]

To City Council,
Hello, my name is Eric Aldous. I am currently employed as a City of Napa Electrician 2. I started my employment here at the City in early October of 2019 and after eight months of employment I was notified that I was on the list of future lay-offs.

In the short time of my employment, I have seen first hand the importance of the Electrical Department to the everyday operation of City of Napa. Upon arriving to work on my first day, I was welcomed with enthusiasm by everyone I met. Within the first few days of working, I discovered that our department had gone from six people down to three people in a relatively short amount of time. The reduction in force had apparently occurred for several different reasons. One left for retirement, one for a different department within the City, and one electrician had moved out of state. Needless to say, the City of Napa Electrical department was obviously short handed. I now understood why people in Public Works were so happy to see me as the fourth electrician.

Over the past several months I have learned the ins and outs of the job and how I fit in to the Electrical Department. I have learned how important preventative maintenance is to critical systems such as traffic signals, street lights, early flood warning alert sights and intruder panic buttons under desks to name a few. In addition, I have worked closely with my fellow electricians on other important projects including the installation of the back up generator at the ever important Sugarloaf Police and Fire emergency radio site, installing extra Cop Cam charge stations in PD, and providing power to fire alarm cell dialers added to fire alarm panels throughout the City. Additionally, the four of us work on the dozens of miscellaneous that pop up on a daily basis.

During the PG&E induced PSPSs, the four of us electricians split into teams of two to provide round the clock refueling of generators. These generators supplied power to emergency radio sites and traffic signals within the major corridors of Napa.

In closing, I'd like to say that my personal feelings aside, and the fact that I really enjoy my job at the City of Napa aside, I truly believe that all of the current employees in Public Works are critical to Napa. All members of the already lean maintenance crews are important and should be cherished. Lay-offs, if an option at all, should be reserved for dire emergency. For now, we as a team, should stick together to provide services that the citizens of Napa and future visitors to Napa have come to expect. When these visitors do come back, which they will, what condition will Napa be in both aesthetically and from a safety stand point?

Thank You for your time,
Eric Aldous

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: John Schmidt

From: [Mary Lueros](#)

To: [Clerk](#)

Subject: Fwd: Support for Parks and Recreation programs and facilities

Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:16:07 PM

Begin forwarded message:

From: John Schmidt <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Support for Parks and Recreation programs and facilities
Date: May 18, 2020 at 12:13:33 PM PDT
To: mlueros@cityofnapa.org

[EXTERNAL]

Council Member Lueros,

Thank you in advance for reading my email. I understand the budget pressure Napa is under caused by the virus, but I am writing today to express my support to maintain reasonable funding for our beloved Parks and Recreation department. As a local Napan, I frequently use many of the facilities and services provided by that department, so any cuts will be very impacting to myself and the community. In particular I am an avid player in the Adult Sports volleyball program, the recreation coordinator Dan Opperman has done a great job over the years championing this popular athletic activity with about 100 regular league participants. Cuts to this program through staff reduction and/or gym time availability would be devastating to myself and my regular playing friends as this is one of the most fun things we do. We all are being realistic that the ability to start the leagues back up again will take some time, what I am asking for is your support to keep substantial funding for this and other adult sport programs once we can start gathering in small groups again. These activities are a big part of the quality of life we enjoy in Napa.

Thank you,
John Schmidt
[REDACTED]

City Council Meeting
5/19/2020
Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment
From: Karl Johnson

From: [Mary Lueros](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Cc: [Steve Potter](#)
Subject: Fwd: Slow Streets in Napa
Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:16:22 PM

Begin forwarded message:

From: Karl Johnson <[REDACTED]>
Subject: **Slow Streets in Napa**
Date: May 18, 2020 at 11:29:36 AM PDT
To: jtechel@cityofnapa.org, mlueros@cityofnapa.org,
ssedgley@cityofnapa.org, dgentry@cityofnapa.org,
lalessio@cityofnapa.org
Cc: Karl Johnson <[REDACTED]>
NapaClimateNOW@350bayarea.org

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Napa Leaders,

As we emerge from this pandemic, it is crystal clear we need a new normal - inspecting the old normal we find it leads us to more and more social, economic and environment disasters.

Our world is on fire and we need to act.

The Napa Slow streets creates a better community and a good example of simple common sense changes for the new normal.

I urge you to take the leadership to make this change.

Thank you for your service to Napa,
All the Best, Karl

--

Best,
Karl Johnson
[REDACTED]

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Susan Crosby

From: [Mary Lueros](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Cc: [Steve Potter](#)
Subject: Fwd: slow streets, please
Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:16:31 PM

Begin forwarded message:

From: susan crosby [REDACTED]
Subject: slow streets, please
Date: May 18, 2020 at 11:02:43 AM PDT
To: mlueros@cityofnapa.org

[EXTERNAL]

Please lend your support to the slow streets proposal to make our town safer, quieter, and irresistibly walkable and bike-able. It's also another step in the direction of addressing climate change, which we desperately need.

Thank you,
Susan Crosby

City Council Meeting
5/19/2020
Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment
From: Elizabeth Sanford

From: [Mary Luros](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Cc: [Steve Potter](#)
Subject: Fwd: slow streets
Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:16:47 PM

Begin forwarded message:

From: Elizabeth Sanford <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: slow streets
Date: May 18, 2020 at 10:57:13 AM PDT
To: Kara Brunzell <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Jill Techel <jtechel@cityofnapa.org>, Liz Alessio
<lalessio@cityofnapa.org>, Scott Sedgley <ssedgley@cityofnapa.org>,
"dgentry@cityofnapa.org" <dgentry@cityofnapa.org>, Mary Luros
<mluros@cityofnapa.org>

[EXTERNAL]

I agree with Kara! I was born in Napa and a longtime homeowner of the letter streets as well. Both my husband and I walk and ride our bikes throughout Napa. I fully support the Slow Streets movement and hope that our Napa leaders will adopt this policy to further enhance our beautiful 'Napa' lifestyle that so many of enjoy.

Elizabeth Sanford

On Mon, May 18, 2020 at 9:23 AM Kara Brunzell <[REDACTED]> wrote:

As a longtime resident of the letter streets I love to walk and bike all over Napa for exercise and pleasure. It's the best way to enjoy the unparalleled beauty of our town and its surroundings. I am often frustrated, however, by the way our City is set up to favor and convenience automobiles, especially now that we are all walking more than ever. Slow streets are an excellent way to make our streets as safe for people as they are for cars. Please adopt this inexpensive innovation at the earliest opportunity.

<https://napabike.org/slow-streets/>

Thanks,

Kara Brunzell

--
Elizabeth Sanford

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: M Brook Youdell

From: [Mary Lueros](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Is Support of Napa Parks and Recreation Department
Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:16:57 PM

Begin forwarded message:

From: M Brook Herrema <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Is Support of Napa Parks and Recreation Department
Date: May 18, 2020 at 10:29:22 AM PDT
To: Mary Lueros <mlueros@cityofnapa.org>

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Ms. Lueros;

I am writing to voice my support to ensure the continuation as we currently know it of the Napa Parks and Recreation Department.

I am a mother of two preschool boys. I work as a private chef and own a home in Brown's Valley. With all transparency, my supportive husband and best friend is David Youdell, Parks Supervisor, so I am well versed in the details of the pressing matter of layoffs and budget-cuts at hand. And with proposed layoffs of 50% of his department, you can imagine the stressful situation this is bringing into our home!

For years, David talked about getting a job with the City, specifically hoping for the Parks and Recreation department. Over the course of about three years he applied for every available job opening, to the point that the managers knew him by name. In February 2018, David got hired on as a Park Maintenance Worker 2 in Urban Forestry, a position much more elementary than the position he left as head foreman of a prestigious tree company. He took the job though, a career move, because this was his in to where he wanted to be. Within two years he became a Tree Worker 3 and then Parks Supervisor.

When David started with the City he was overwhelmed by the work load. He worked hard to train his team and how to operate as efficiently as possible. Inspired to be better, since then David and his colleagues created an environment of productivity, pride in their work, camaraderie and inclusivity. These men and women now feel purpose in what they do and use their time to the fullest.

They are also a very close-knit team. Wanting a holiday party, but not having the forum to do so at work, we invited the team and spouses to our house where I served roast chicken with gravy and mashed potatoes on my grandmother's gold-rim china. With success, David encouraged respected professionals in the field to apply for jobs as they became available. Billiard nights at Bilco's become a team-builder, bringing together those from both Parks and Recreation. When a co-worker's son suddenly died earlier this year, David was the one who met him in the hospital, sitting with him and the chaplain for hours before finally driving him home at 3AM. While a congregation from Parks and Recreation showed support at the funeral service, I stayed back at this family's house, preparing canapés and cooking an elegant lunch for eighty guests for the wake to follow.

This is clearly a team that stands up for and supports one another. This is why they are productive and the prideful department is what it is. They understand that we are living in challenging times and will make sensible concessions to save their colleagues and the work capabilities of the department they care so much about. More unemployed people, parents without jobs, will only further burden our city and resources, not to mention personal well-being and mental health.

The citizens of Napa deserve maintained parks and right of ways, pruned trees for safety and affordable programs (when they can return) for well-being and education. There must be an intelligent solution that works for all before the wrecking ball smashes what has been painstakingly crafted to smithereens. Even if

my husband doesn't get laid off (thankfully he was not in this initial round of pink slips), rest assure that the work demanded cannot be completed to anyone's satisfaction (the always-critical public nor the prideful employees) with only a skeleton crew and beaten morale.

You hold great power. Please use it wisely.

Sincerely,
M Brook Youdell

--

chezbrook.com - -



City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Karen Peters

From: [Mary Lueros](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Cc: [Steve Potter](#)
Subject: Fwd: Slow Streets in Napa
Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:18:12 PM

Begin forwarded message:

From: Karen Peters [REDACTED]
Subject: Slow Streets in Napa
Date: May 18, 2020 at 9:19:47 AM PDT
To: jtechel@cityofnapa.org, dgentry@cityofnapa.org,
ssedgley@cityofnapa.org, mluros@cityofnapa.org,
lalessio@cityofnapa.org

[EXTERNAL]

Good morning, City Council!

I am writing to encourage you to work creatively on adopting the “Slow Streets” Program for Napa.

"Adoption of a Slow Streets program would support safe, accessible recreation and transportation for Napa residents and provide more space for social distancing by closing a series of identified streets to through traffic. Such a program is also intended to encourage continued active transportation use even as Napa County enters deeper levels of Phase 2 re-opening. By providing safe corridors for outdoor activities by local residents, we will be supporting community health and wellbeing. The ability to encourage more active transportation for everyday errands may also have measurable benefits to GHG reduction, by keeping vehicles off the roads." (quoted from the Napa County Bicycle Coalition)

The trials of Covid-19 for our city and our county pale in comparison to what is happening, and will happen, in the very near future, with climate change. We need to be constantly moving forward toward encouraging responsible and safe ways to navigate our city. Bikes are an essential part of this, as is walking.

Thank you for considering our current and future quality of life with thoughtfulness and courage.

best wishes,

Karen Peters
Browns Valley, Napa

City Council Meeting
5/19/2020
Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment
From: Jayme Witmore

From: [Mary Luros](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Cc: [Steve Potter](#)
Subject: Fwd: Parks & Recreation Cuts
Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:19:58 PM

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jayme Witmore [REDACTED]
Subject: Parks & Recreation Cuts
Date: May 14, 2020 at 3:52:05 PM PDT
To: Jill Techel <jtechel@cityofnapa.org>
Cc: Liz Alessio <lalessio@cityofnapa.org>, Mary Luros <mluros@cityofnapa.org>, Scott Sedgley <SSedgley@cityofnapa.org>, Doris Gentry <dgentry@cityofnapa.org>

[EXTERNAL]

Dear City Council,

I am writing to you all today in hopes that you will reconsider the idea of cutting the budget and allowing layoffs to our city's Park & Recreation Department.

As a tax payer, and citizen of the City of Napa, I feel as though cutting this department in half is not a good idea.

The department of Parks & Recreation does so much for our city. Who will be the ones to clean up the needles, used condoms, graffiti, poop, blood and more from our parks each morning before innocent children go and play on them during the day?! Who will be the ones to clean up garbage and needles from the homeless on our streets, alleyways and trails citizens use daily?

Have we thought about the impact it will do to what our city will look like? What tourist will see? What families who may be considering moving the valley? And most importantly-To the families who presently live here and work hard to afford to stay here?!

More than the garbage, graffiti and needles that are found everywhere; what about the events and class that are put on for the citizens of the City? What are our children suppose to do on a rainy day if there is no more Wiggle Room being held at the Las Flores Center? What kind of sports, dance classes, art classes and other extra curricular activities will our children have offered to them?

What about the activities and social programs that are put together for our

seniors. The ones who need to be around other people but can't because they don't drive anymore, or live alone.

We need to do better than this. We need to come up with a better solution.

This will only hurt us in the long run as a community.

Before this decision is made I hope all other departments have been looked at and are having cuts made as well. Or maybe during this pandemic we consider looking at the budget for a 6 month period, rather than a year. No one knows what will be happening a year from now. I don't know what the true solution is, I just know that the solution should not be cutting the Parks & Recreation Department in half.

Thank you for your time,

Jayme Gallegos

City Council Meeting
5/19/2020
Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment
From: Patrick Band

From: [Mary Lueros](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Cc: [Steve Potter](#)
Subject: Fwd: Request for Adoption: Slow Streets Program
Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:21:15 PM
Attachments: [Slow Streets Memo - May 2020 FINAL.pdf](#)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Patrick Band <pband@napabike.org>
Subject: Request for Adoption: Slow Streets Program
Date: May 15, 2020 at 4:52:43 PM PDT
To: Jill Techel <jtechel@cityofnapa.org>
Cc: Doris Gentry <dgentry@cityofnapa.org>, Scott Sedgley <ssedgley@cityofnapa.org>, Mary Lueros <mlueros@cityofnapa.org>, Liz Alessio <lalessio@cityofnapa.org>

[EXTERNAL]

Mayor Techel & Councilmembers,

The Napa County Bicycle Coalition would like to formally request that the City of Napa adopt a "Slow Streets" program, to provide increased safety and accessibility to recreation and active transportation opportunities throughout the City during the current crisis.

Attached is a memo we have prepared that provides an outline of what a Slow Streets program might look like, as well as links to resources from other communities which have adopted these programs in recent weeks and months. To date, an estimated 90+ communities across the United States have adopted such a program.

We have shared an earlier draft of the document with City staff, and have begun initial discussions regarding implementation and lessons learned from other jurisdictions.

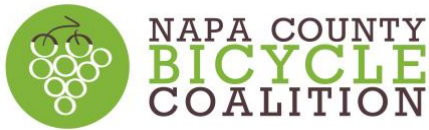
Due to the ongoing increased use of our parks, trails and outdoor spaces, and the likelihood that increased walking and biking will continue or further increase as we approach the end of the school year, we respectfully request your support in moving this proposal forward as soon as possible.

I am happy to answer any questions you may have about our proposal for Napa specifically, or discuss what we have learned about Slow Streets programs in other communities.

--

Patrick Band
Executive Director, Napa County Bicycle Coalition
O: (707) 258-6318. C: (707) 319-1538

www.NapaBike.org



May 15, 2020

Slow Streets Napa County
Request for Program Adoption

TO: To Whom it May Concern

SUBJECT: Adoption of Slow Streets Program during COVID-19

FROM: Patrick Band, Executive Director

Background:

The Napa County Bicycle Coalition is formally requesting that the City of Napa and other local municipalities adopt a “Slow Streets” program, which has been successfully implemented in nearly a dozen Bay Area communities with positive results.

Since the Governor’s emergency declaration on March 4, 2020, and the subsequent Shelter at Home order by the Napa County Public Health Officer, our streets have seen a tremendous reduction in vehicle traffic. At the same time, the number of local residents using streets and trails for outdoor recreation and transportation has skyrocketed. During the month of April, use along the Napa Valley Vine Trail at the Tulocay Creek Bridge increased by 88% year-over-year, based on automated bike/ped counter data. Similar increases in walking, running, and bicycling have been seen throughout Napa Valley.

Adoption of a Slow Streets program would support safe, accessible recreation and transportation for Napa residents and provide more space for social distancing by closing a series of identified streets to through traffic. Such a program is also intended to encourage continued active transportation use even as Napa County enters deeper levels of Phase 2 re-opening. By providing safe corridors for outdoor activities by local residents, we will be supporting community health and wellbeing. The ability to encourage more active transportation for everyday errands may also have measurable benefits to GHG reduction, by keeping vehicles off the roads.

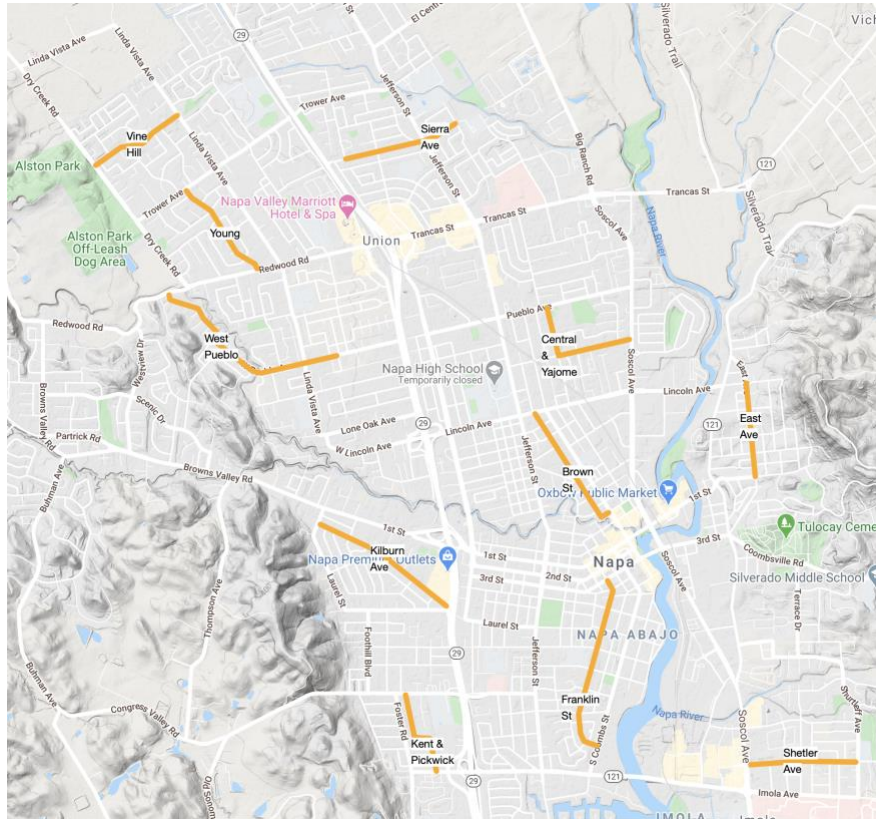
Implementation Framework:

The Napa County Bicycle Coalition has developed a list of streets which we feel meet the broad criteria necessary for a successful Slow Streets program. Our staff have considered numerous factors, including:

- Designated Truck & Transit Routes – The majority of proposed streets avoid designated truck and NVTa Vine Transit routes, to limit potential conflicts with heavy vehicles.
- Zoning & Land Use – Focusing on residential streets while avoiding major destinations (such as grocery stores or other retail) on the proposed Slow Streets corridor. At the same time, proposed streets prioritize access to community destinations such as parks and shopping, to further encourage active transportation uses.
- Existing or Planned Bicycle Facilities – Nearly all proposed streets have existing or proposed bicycle facilities. Our hope is that the Slow Streets program will help support long-term community awareness of active transportation uses on these corridors.

An interactive map of possible “Slow Streets” facilities has been posted online at: <https://caltopo.com/m/M7EB>.

Below is a screenshot of the corridors which meet our initial criteria.



Example Jurisdictions:

As noted previously, dozens of cities across the Bay Area and the United States have recently adopted Slow Streets programs, with some cities already planning for some streets to retain this classification permanently. [This spreadsheet](#) lists nearly all jurisdictions with an adopted Slow Streets program. A select number of cities are also listed below, with links to websites for more information about the program in that city.

- [Alameda, CA](#)
- [Boston, MA](#)
- [Foster City, CA](#)
- [Redwood City, CA](#)
- [New Orleans, LA](#)
- [New York, NY](#)
- [Oakland, CA](#)
- [Portland, OR](#)
- [Providence, RI](#)
- [San Diego, CA](#)
- [San Francisco, CA](#)
- [Seattle, WA](#)
- [Tucson, AZ](#)
- [Vancouver, BC](#)

From: Jessica Day [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 2:15 PM
To: Clerk
Subject: COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR MAY 19, 2020 - PLEASE READ

[EXTERNAL]

I understand that the City Council is considering a proposal from the Napa County Bicycle Coalition to close a series of identified streets to through traffic as part of a Slow Streets proposal. I support this initiative wholeheartedly.

I believe that this not only serves multiple immediate goals (reducing our transport carbon footprint, simplifying our social distancing, encouraging a healthier lifestyle and other impactful initiatives), but it also supports our commercial goals of attracting tourist business after the threat of COVID-19 has passed. Walkable communities and bikable rural areas such as ours are offerings that draw people to us. Continuing to invest in places where tourists want to spend their dollars without relying on automobiles that they've rented will increase the services that we can provide and pleasure that others can derive from a visit.

Additionally, this tactic has been adopted by dozens of cities across the Bay Area and the United States and there is a proven template that we can now reproduce here. I support the proposal by the Napa County Bicycle Coalition.

--

Jessica Day
[REDACTED]

City of Napa resident, 94558

Coordinating rapid transformation in unprecedented times? [Our library of resources for crowdsourcing in times of crisis will help you plan and execute.](#)

From: [Dave Kearney-Brown](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR MAY 19, 2020 MEETING-PLEASE READ
Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:18:14 PM

[EXTERNAL]

This text is comments for public comments and is no more than 500 words.

My name is David Kearney-Brown and I live and work in the City of Napa. I am a third grade teacher and have worked for the Napa Valley Unified School District for almost 25 years. I was honored last year to receive recognition as one of the Napa Bike Coalition's Bike Commuters of the Year.

I am honored again today to be able to express my excited and enthusiastic support for the Napa Bike Coalition's Slow Streets proposal and to state officially and publicly the equally enthusiastic support of Napa Climate Now for this timely and visionary proposal.

All around the city we have been able to see for ourselves one of the unlooked-for responses to the current pandemic-the huge increase in our neighbors walking and bicycling instead of driving. This has resulted in cleaner air and a significant decrease in Greenhouse Gas emissions. Not incidentally, we can also safely assume that it has resulted in a significant increase in the health and wellness of our community members.

Transportation is the largest source of GHG emissions in our county and has been one of the more intractable areas in terms of making progress on reducing emissions. The ingeniousness of the Slow Streets model is that it addresses the biggest concerns folks express about switching to walking and biking-that they feel unsafe with so many cars on the road. It provides calm, safe corridors throughout the city for active transportation.

I teach my students about Global Warming as part of our unit on weather and climate, but always assure them that we, as adults, are doing all we can to address the problem. I urge you to take this opportunity to shift our local transportation culture in a substantial, sustainable and healthy way and to and to help me make my promise to my third graders a reality by approving the Bike Coalition's proposal.

Thank you!

**City Council Meeting
5/19/2020
Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment
From: Samantha Hamilton**

From: [Samantha Hamilton](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Comment to council for May 19, 2020 Meeting- PLEASE READ DURING GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT TIME
REGARDING PARKS AND REC DEPARTMENT
Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:56:15 PM

[EXTERNAL]

I would like to submit a public comment for the city council meeting for tomorrow please:

My name is Samantha, I was born and raised in Napa. I was lucky enough to work for Napa Parks and Recreation throughout my High school years and after I graduated. I was a Lifeguard and swim instructor, I participated in "4300" dances as a Chaperone, I worked in after school care at the Elementary schools, and I was a "Mini" Sports Coach. These are all programs that I had the pleasure in being able to work closely with children and families in the community. High School was not an easy time for me, but going to work and being able to participate in something bigger than I was gave me building blocks I needed as a teenager that I still use to this day. Having my jobs at Napa Parks and Rec helped keep me focused on the bigger picture and helped keep my head above water when I felt like I was drowning myself. I learned social skills that I continue to use now everyday. Working gave me confidence in who I am in the work force at a young age and a great work ethic. Being a lifeguard and being allowed the responsibilities that I did showed me I could actually do something with my life. I am now a Volunteer Firefighter and an Emt, I also work in my local Emergency Department as an Emergency Room Technician. I am excited to start my Nursing Program in July. I owe Napa Parks and Recreation, and the many amazing coworkers that I had the opportunity to work besides a big thank you for their part in these accomplishments I have reached in my life. I believe that Napa as a community needs Napa Parks and Recreation and to rid Napa of this great Department would be an extremely bad decision on the City Councils part for our community.

Thank you,

Samantha Sprengelmeyer-Hamilton

May 18, 2020

To Napa City Council

Regarding housing

Attached is a letter I sent to the BOS just last week regarding tenant/landlord relationships.

Also, may I comment on the letter dated May 15, 2020 by NPH of Northern California

I agree that everyone's health is at issue here but also realizing Government can not do a same size fits all attitude.

The NPH letter suggests some local level actions:

- 1- Institute a rent freeze- this has already occurred by the market not by government- most landlords want to keep their tenants and do not wish to raise rents- we also have AB 1482 that is a rent control measure in place, plus the rent gouging fire law that limits rent increases of 10% since 2018 which still has not been lifted by the Governor.
- 2- Use federal funding for rent relief for the most needy- I addressed this previously stating why use \$1.4M to assist the "lucky 58-82 tenants" that could get rent covered for a whole year under this program. What would be the incentive for them to go back to work and pay their own rent per their contract they signed? I can see using these funds to pay a partial rent payment say \$500 per month on a very limited 2-3 months to those tenants that show they are using their stimulus checks and their unemployment benefits to pay their % portion of the rent.
- 3- Rent relief fund- reach out to Napa Valley Community Foundation and other Foundations to see if they can assist as in #2 above. The subsidized rent checks should go directly to the landlord and not into the tenant's pockets since you are assisting tenants to pay their rent.
- 4- Using affordable housing funds to subsidize the current tenants in a subsidized project is not what this money was to be used for. It is like taking the ½% road sales tax on using it to pay City employees -that is not what it was to be used for.
- 5- Rent suspensions are bad for the market- this idea will only create more havoc and higher rents in the future as less rental inventory will be available and investors will want to recoup their loss of income.
- 6- State Level- the Governor did a major flaw in his eviction protection bill – see paragraph 6 in my BOS letter. The other ideas only cause further damage down the road as projects are using their reserves for short term expenses. These projects, just like market rate projects need to be accountable to their investors- as in affordable projects- that is the taxpayer- which has already subsidized these projects in the Millions of dollars already.

7- Federal Level- Get people back to work is the only solution to this problem. Not allowing the private sector to reopen will only cause more businesses closing, loss of sales and TOT tax revenues and loss in commercial property values including hotels, office buildings etc.....

Thank you for listening.

Randy Gularte 

May 7, 2020

Napa County Board of Supervisors
1195 Third St., Suite 305
Napa, CA 94559

RE: Rental Housing

Napa County Board of Supervisors,

As an owner of a property management company that oversees 2500+ units and 30 HOAs, I feel compelled to address some of the information (and misinformation) circulating throughout the county.

I have said for several years - 2% of landlords are not good landlords, and 2% of tenants are not good tenants. What I mean by that is, 2% of landlords want to barley fix health and safety issues, fail to keep their units in good repair and want to charge maximum rent. Similarly, 2% of tenants do not maintain their units, do not follow rules, do not pay their rent on time (or at all), and cause issues with neighboring tenants.

But this is only 2% - the other 98% want to do the right thing. Now County is considering tougher eviction laws and rent delays than what the Governor has enacted. Now the County wants to make one size fits all policy that treats all landlords as erratic and greedy. Eviction is the last resort for landlords – we want good, long term tenants, and evicting them costs thousands.

The current process in place for tenant-landlord responsibilities is a legal one – with tenant protections and tools that landlords can use to safeguard their property, the neighbors, and income. When issues arise, there are ways to settle disputes, including mediation, nonprofit support, and judicial rulings. Landlords and tenants should be allowed work this out amongst themselves.

Yes, there are issues and conflicts in rental housing, but putting more restraints on our already fragile rental market will only make things worse and encourage landlords to divest from the rental market. The Fair Housing client letter shows that most issues have laws/remedies in place to (and one is tenant versus tenant).

We do not charge late fees to tenants impacted by COVID-19 - but we do not afford this benefit to tenants that hide behind Governor's Order and refuse to pay even though they were not affected and could afford to. The Governor's Order states that within 7 days after rent is due the tenant must provide evidence of COVID -19 loss of income, **BUT it does not state what happens if the tenant does not provide this information.** So many tenants are just refusing to pay their rent and refusing to provide any evidence of COVID-19 impacts.

199 of our tenants have not paid their April rent. 25 have signed a deferral agreement. Some landlords have waived April rent; some are allowing 3-12 months to pay back rent. But that is between each landlord and tenant, again not government dictating what to do.

Tenants and landlords have a contract and all parties need to abide by it. Allowing tenants to just walk away from a lease or rental payments because they have lost their job is not sufficient reason, **especially**

because any reduction or loss of income is being offset by two layers of cash payments. For example, renters earning minimum wage are eligible for the \$1200 one-time federal payment, plus approximately \$850-1000 per week in unemployment. All parties need to be held accountable and communicate to each other and work it out.

Government should refrain from making short-sighted policies that ignore the current laws at work.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Randy Gularte", written in dark ink.

Randy Gularte

Fair Housing Napa Valley- COVID-19 Client Experiences

Below please find brief descriptions of resident experiences shared with Fair Housing Napa Valley, all of which occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic. These examples highlight the need for stronger tenant protections for some of Napa's most vulnerable communities.

- A Hispanic tenant that rented a bedroom on a month-to-month basis was told to vacate by his landlord in mid-March upon finding out about high infection rate of COVID-19. The tenant reached out to FHNV from a hotel in his third week of staying away to find out if this was fair that he is paying out of pocket for his hotel stay when he already paid rent for his room.
- Another tenant reported that when they informed their landlord that they couldn't pay rent due to the virus, in accordance with the Governor's order, they were told they had 2 weeks to pay or vacate.
- A low-income senior tenant with mental & physical disabilities receiving housing subsidies, is facing a 3-day notice to comply or quit, due to an incomplete re-certification appointment. The tenant needs to leave home to obtain the necessary documentation for this appointment but cannot due to current shelter in place orders and their own increased risk to illness.
- A tenant was physically locked out of her home by fellow tenants due to COVID-19 related non-payment of rent. She also reported being punished for non-payment by being denied cable and internet, which was included in her lease. The tenant came home to find her belongings outside, and a 30 day notice posted on the front door. Police were ultimately needed to assist the tenant with accessing her home.
- The owner of a property in St. Helena with four single family residences and a full apartment complex has decided to double the rent effective as of May 1. Even though the landlord has been notified that the increase is illegal, he sent notice in March, and again in April when he let everyone know they could "defer" the extra payments but it would be due upon the lifting of the stay at home order. Those who don't agree to these terms are being asked to leave. This is a complex full of low-income tenants – single parent families, elderly on fixed income and migrant farmworkers. Many of these tenants don't have an income, aren't able to view homes, and have no way to fund a move at this time.
- A disabled tenant, who works as a grocery clerk, was asked to vacate just before the stay at home order was issued. She was off work temporarily prior to the crisis but able to keep current on her rent. She recovered enough to resume work but her illness is directly affected by stress, and interferes with her ability to leave her home. Despite being a front-line employee as a grocery clerk and otherwise unable to leave her home due to her disability, her landlord has been unwilling to allow her to stay past May 1. She does not have the option to stay with friends or family due to her heightened risk of exposure and potential status as a carrier. She is ill again and again confined to home and unable to effectively look for alternate housing options.

Fair Housing Napa Valley- COVID-19 Client Experiences

- A tenant reported ongoing financial difficulties and was late on the March rent when the stay at home order was issued. She was due to start a new job which would have added to her retirement and spousal support income and enabled her to get caught up and maintain currency with her rent. Unfortunately, due to the stay at home order she has not been able to start that job and has been facing a 3 day notice that was issued. Her subsequent attempt to pay rent, after the notice expired, was denied. When emergency orders are lifted, she will lose her housing.

Though many of these examples are addressed temporarily by the Governor's order and State Judicial Council Rule, they demonstrate the continued risk for homelessness, during and following the current orders, for many of Napa's most vulnerable communities. Additional tenant protections are needed to assist all residents.

City Council Meeting
5/19/2020
Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment
From: John Glaser

From: [John Glaser](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR MAY 19, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ
Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 9:18:30 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Mayor Jill Techel, Members of the Napa City Council, and City Staff:

We want to add our voices to those advocating for the Slow Streets proposal for the City of Napa. We have a moment of opportunity to capitalize on one of our learnings during this pandemic, which is that finding ways to slow down our lives and bring families together in wholesome recreational activities is a good thing.

While this proposal is a very modest one that only “slows down” small selected corridors in selected neighborhoods, it reflects a substantial opportunity to encourage families to bike and walk together and to leave their automobiles at home when feasible. This can also support our efforts to create safe routes to school, shopping, and recreation.

We face an enormous challenge as a community, society and planet in the need to immediately begin addressing climate change. We have all seen firsthand what becomes possible for the air we all breathe when we begin to reduce the amount of vehicle traffic. This moderate plan would at least be a small but meaningful step in keeping our community on that path and in reminding citizens of the need to abandon our vehicles when it is prudent and viable.

Please support this effort by approving the Slow Streets proposal.

Yours,

Carol and John Glaser


Napa

City Council Meeting
5/19/2020
Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment
From: Jennifer Freskan

From: [Jennifer Freskan](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Re: Parks and recs budget meeting please read comments
Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 11:12:48 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Council Members

My name is Jennifer. I am a resident of the City of Napa. I am writing to express how unhappy I am to hear the City Council is considering approving the City of Napa's Executive Team proposed budget, which includes a proposal to dissolve, dismantle, and layoff almost HALF of the Parks and Recreation Department. The Council needs to be thinking about the needs of the tax paying citizens. If the Council adopts the proposed budget it will have a detrimental impact to the community and our families who enjoy the parks and these affordable City programs. We need the parks and staff now more then ever! I back up to one of the parks and these employees work very hard keeping the park clean and safe for our families. I see them out there all of the time. You will not get that kind of care if you contract out. Yes the grass may be cut but that's probably it.

My biggest complaint about this proposal. Cutting the programs. Both my kids go to Las Flores Community center "Little Rascals" Preschool. They absolutely love it. The staff there is like family and care about about my children and their education. They have exceeded my expectations in every way possible. During the shelter in place their teacher has held zoom classes every week. She reads stories, science projects and just lets the kids share with each other. I know she doesn't have to do this, she wants to do this. They miss the kids as much as the kids miss their teacher. She even held zoom meetings for my 2 year old that goes to "together time" at Las Flores. I know classes aren't being held right now but the kids will eventually return to school and I want to know their school will be there for them. How do I tell them we have to find a new school because their teachers didn't fit in the city's budget?

Please consider the families that you are hurting.

Sincerely,

Thanks,
Jennifer Martin

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Darlene Scott

From: [Darlene Scott](#)

To: [Clerk](#)

Subject: Slow Streets Program

Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 6:43:11 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Napa City Council:

I have been a 40 year resident of Napa County and thoroughly support the idea of slow streets in Napa for several reasons:

- 1) This will wildly promote school children to more safely ride their bikes to school.
- 2) This program if adopted in downtown business areas will promote locals and visitors to support businesses.
- 3) This program will encourage people to break their usual and customary habit of driving cars that contribute to fouling our air.

Sincerely:

Darlene Scott

[REDACTED]

Napa. CA. 94558

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Jason Servatius

From: [Jason Servatius](#)

To: [Clerk](#)

Cc: [Jess Day](#)

Subject: COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR MAY 19, 2020 - PLEASE READ

Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 9:38:52 AM

[EXTERNAL]

To the Honorable City Council of Napa, CA

I understand that the City Council is considering a proposal from the Napa County Bicycle Coalition to close a series of identified streets to through traffic as part of a Slow Streets proposal. I am strongly in favor of this initiative.

I believe that this not only serves multiple immediate goals (reducing our transport carbon footprint, simplifying our social distancing, encouraging a healthier lifestyle and other impactful initiatives), but it also supports our commercial goals of attracting tourist business after the threat of COVID-19 has passed. Walkable communities and bikable rural areas such as ours are offerings that draw people to us. Continuing to invest in places where tourists want to spend their dollars without relying on automobiles that they've rented will increase the services that we can provide and pleasure that others can derive from a visit.

Additionally, this tactic has been adopted by Dozens of cities across the Bay Area and the United States and there is a proven template that we can now reproduce here. I support the proposal by the Napa County Bicycle Coalition.

Sincerely,

Jason Servatius

 Napa, CA

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City Council Meeting
5/19/2020
Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment
From: Rebecca Kotch

From: [Rebecca Kotch](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR MAY 19, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ
Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 10:24:01 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Mayor Jill Techel, Members of the Napa City Council, and City Staff:

I share with you another voice as an advocate for the Slow Streets proposal for the City of Napa. There is a boom going on across the country and around the world, and right here in our own backyard - a bicycle boom! Just take a look at our streets, our cul de sacs and the Napa Valley Vine Trail - all filled with people pedaling - all ages, shapes, sizes on all kinds of bikes - some of which I am sure have been sitting growing dusty in a garage corner. I joke to myself that a Saturday morning on the Vine Trail is now like the 80-East on a pre-covid commuter morning. But this boom is beyond just the numbers of those pedaling on the Vine Trail. People are riding bikes all over Napa and it's a pretty darn spectacular scene.

The COVID-19 lockdown has shown us a different future is possible. A future in which bicycling - to school, to stores, to the park - can be done without trepidation, and can be part of our normal way we choose to transport ourselves. Removing cars and giving way to pedestrians and bicyclists is not about shutting down streets, but rather allowing our community to safely benefit from the importance of exercise (for our mental well-being and physical too) and supporting our collective mission on creating a sustainable Napa Valley as we deal with our other major global issue - climate change.

Yesterday's New York Times [article](#) featured this boom and it ended with this:

Jeremy Payne, who lives in Phoenix, purchased four bikes in the last month: one for him, one for his wife and one for each of his two children. He starts most of his days with a long bike ride and his wife has taken to riding to the grocery store rather than driving their car.

Even his 75-year-old mother, for whom he bought an electric bike in November, has become an avid cyclist in her neighborhood in Santa Barbara, Calif.

“She hadn’t been riding that much, but because of the pandemic she’s been cooped up in her house and wanted to get out,” he said. “Now she bikes around the same loop and her neighbors wave at her when she passes them. For her in her community it’s like the Tour de France.”

If you've ever been on a bike, there's a feeling of pure freedom and joy, as Jeremy's 75-year old mother has discovered and so many here in Napa have as well.

Please support this effort by approving the Slow Streets proposal.

Rebecca Kotch, League Certified Instructor, American League of Bicyclists
Owner - Ride Napa Valley

Rebecca@RebeccaKotch.com
RideNapaValley.com | NapaValley1839.com



City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Eric Murray

From: [Eric Murray](#)

To: [Clerk](#)

Subject: COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR MAY 19, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ

Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 11:08:44 AM

[EXTERNAL]

- I would like to encourage the City of Napa to adopt the Napa Bike Coalition's Slow Street proposal. It would benefit the city in numerous ways. It would increase the health and well being of the people of Napa by
 - increasing safe outdoor space consistent with social distancing standards
 - calm automobile traffic
 - increase and improve the safety of pedestrian, cycling and other microtransportation
 - increase property values, as studies around the world have shown
 - perpetuate an increased sense of community and neighborliness, as we have all seen with increased foot traffic during the Shelter at Home orders

I would also support closing downtown streets to automobile traffic to promote social distancing and allow restaurants and retailers to serve their customers outdoors.

Thank you,

Eric Murray

Co-chair

Napa Climate Now!

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Rachel Perkovich

From: [Rachel Perkovich](#)

To: [Clerk](#)

Subject: Fwd: Save our Parks

Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 11:18:38 AM

[EXTERNAL]

To Whom It May Concern;

Some of my earliest memories are of taking swimming lessons at Redwood Middle School, when he was in Jr High, my brother participated in the Junior Lifeguard Program. I remember the summer camps held at West Wood Hills and the celebrations held among the natural settings of Alston Park and the sports parties we held at Vie Village. I moved away and lived in other communities some similar and some larger than Napa, it was frustrating not having options for kids camps near by, so I sent him to visit my parents in Napa so he could participate in Napa's Parks and Rec programs over school breaks. My son learned how to swim in the Redwood Middle School pool, just like I did. Kind, well trained youth swim instructors got him over his insecurities and helped him thrive in the water at Redwood Middle School just like I did as a child. The events When I moved back to Napa with my son, I was impressed with the events and activities offered throughout town. I enrolled my son in science camp at Las Flores, the nature camp at skyline and then while looking for a job, I worked over winter break coaching the mini-soccer teams at Las Flores. I was so impressed with Dan and all the employees. I don't think our lives would be the same without Alston Park, I certainly know my dogs life would not be the same. I have been impressed with the improvements and upkeep at all the parks in town, When we moved here picnics and playing at Fuller Park was our weekend outing. I know the budget has changed because of the lack of hotel revenue but taking away parks is just not the answer, communities need parks. Eliminating the parks and rec hurts our children, our teens and our elderly and takes away the opportunity for others to safely enjoy life outdoors.

Thank you

Rachel Perkovich



City Council Meeting
5/19/2020
Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment
From: Mark Crowdis

From: [Mark Crowdis](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Cc: ["Linda Brown"; "Christina Benz"; "Bayard Fox"; "Eric Murray"; "Sharon Sanguinetti\(?\)"; "Darlene Scott"; davekearneybrown@yahoo.com; "Lynne Baker"](#)
Subject: COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR MAY 19, 2020 MEETING - PLEASE READ
Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 11:42:21 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Dear City Council members,

First, thank you for your continued service during the covid-19 pandemic. You will never know how much we, the citizens of Napa, appreciate it.

I try to look at every problem through three lenses: climate change solutions, public good and economic benefit. With this and a vibrant collaboration with friends on the transportation committee of NapaClimateNow!, we have identified an approach we think supports all the of these efforts.

Downtown Napa, which many people have worked very hard to revitalize the last 20 years, is in peril. If we don't allow businesses to open and thrive, it will set us back years, with closed up stores & hotels, disappearance of excited and vibrant tourists. The concept that will counter this and allow safe social distancing is the following.

I would recommend opening up downtown immediately, allow vendors to set up on sidewalks outside their stores, and block streets from automobile traffic on 1st and 2nd from School Street to Main, and on Main from Pearl to 3rd. I would recommend this from Friday 6-10, Saturday 1-10 and Sunday 1-6. We would also recommend allowance of alcohol in open containers so folks can stop and wander with a drink in their hands while they shop and browse with the street side vendors.

Here is why:

- Gets people walking and biking, which results in health, fitness and cleaner air.
- Allows people to safely socially distance while shopping, going to restaurants and bars.
- Creates vibrant meeting places for tourists and locals.
- Generates more revenue for the vendors and the City.

I have spent significant time in Boulder, Burlington and New Orleans. There is no question that this works extremely well for the community and vendors on Pearl Street, Church Street and Bourbon Street. There are many details that have to be worked out regarding spacing and cleanliness to make this a reality, but we should do it with all due speed. Let's get Napa working!!

I also want to show support for the Slow Streets initiative by the Bike Coalition. We think that these two initiatives will very much support the climate, the community and offer economic gain to the City and citizens of Napa.

Thank you,

Mark D. Crowdis
Resident, City of Napa
Supporting Articles

https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2020/05/open-the-streets/611470/?utm_campaign=the-atlantic&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&fbclid=IwAR1gg8IY-WXOi6U2D-RRpkgxJtHso90GlxRcGjZKW3WN-oVcHo_d0LNst3k
<https://thetech.com/2019/11/07/case-pedestrianizing-boston>
<https://globaldesigningcities.org/publication/global-street-design-guide/streets/pedestrian-priority-spaces/pedestrian-only-streets/pedestrian-streets-case-study-stroget-copenhagen/>
<https://www.strongtowns.org/journal/2018/1/16/why-walkable-streets-are-more-economically-productive>
<https://www.fastcompany.com/3062989/50-reasons-why-everyone-should-want-more-walkable-streets>

Mark D. Crowdis
Partner & Co-Founder
E-mail: mcrowdis@127Energy.com
Cell: [301-346-7236](tel:301-346-7236)



Comment to ①
Council for

5/19/2020 MEETING

"Please Read"

City Council Meeting
5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment
From: Norma Gabellini

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
(City Council, City Manager, Mayor, Workers & Community)

THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 HAS BEEN DEVASTATING ALL OVER THE WORLD. COMMUNITIES, BUSINESSES, JOBS, FAMILIES, SCHOOLS & WHAT BINDS THE ECONOMY TOGETHER. THE WINE INDUSTRY IS A BIG FACTOR IN NAPA, SO ARE THE TOURISTS.

THAT WHERE PARKS & REC ARE THE ENTITY THAT MAKES THEIR VISIT ONE TO REMEMBER & TO REVISIT & TELL FRIENDS ABOUT.

NOW THE TIMES ARE NOW, NO SHOPS, NO RESTAURANTS, BARS, OR EVENTS TO ATTEND, MAKES FOR A UNMEMORABLE VISIT, & NO-ONE WILL BE MAINTAINING THE PRISTINE ORA OF THIS VALLEY TOWN, WITH THAT IN MIND THE WORKERS THAT PERFORM THE DUTIES TO NAPA ARE THE CORNERSTONE.

THEIR SKILLS & PRESSION TO TAKE ON ALL TASKS WITH ONLY A SMALL CREW STILL ACHIEVE ALL GOALS SET UPON THEM BY ITS ASTONISHING DEDICATION TO THE COMMUNITY, JOBS & FAMILIES.

NOW THAT PARKS & REC HAVE BEEN

all the rated off the map, it
puts us all in jeopardy.

Worried about the city going
bankrupt, in my opinion all the different
accounts, Gen. Fund, before & after decision
packages, overview Budgets, CIP Review,
Operating Budgets.

My God! Doesn't matter No tourist,
No Residence, NO WORKERS, non maintenance
areas, homeless people free, hygienic
needles, Garbage, defecate sidewalks
Not much to visit, is it?

Have to lay off 27 workers, but
needed items are new technology,
transmitters, IT personnel, & yes even
someone to make a mini parking area
map, why? No need for upgrades, if its
not broke don't fix it, or replace it,
people are what you can't replace
but when money, greed are your beacon
of light, you will have dark & dreary
places.

Good luck Rubber safety in numbers,
don't cut off your nose to spite your face,
never assume, makes an ass of you & me.
Fairwell Papa
as it was, THANKS FOR THE
MEMORIES.

③

NORMA Gabellini
LABORER / MAINT WORKER
Parks & Rec Dept.

7 yrs. / 64 yrs old

* I have always given
100%, I LOVE MY JOB, &
CARE ABOUT WHAT I DO, &
ALWAYS WILL.

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Celeste Mirassou

From: [Celeste Mirassou](#)

To: [Clerk](#)

Subject: Napa Slow Streets

Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 11:57:21 AM

[EXTERNAL]

It would be great if a portion or portions of First Street could be closed for a celebration on a Friday opening of Napa restaurants for outdoor seating. I have fond recollections of Tiburon's Friday nights when they shut down Main Street, put tables in the middle of the road and hired a band. It was a great community event.

Maybe this type of event could offset the loss of the Recreation Department's scheduled events and classes. Perhaps a second test could be for a Sunday when more streets would close and be more inviting to biking and walking families to come down town.

Celeste Mirassou

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: Linda Brown

From: [Linda Brown](#)

To: [Clerk](#)

Subject: COMMENT TO CITY COUNCIL FOR MAY 19, 2020 MEETING - PLEASE READ OUTLOUD

Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 12:03:43 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Napa City Council Members,

Thank you for all you are doing to support Napa during this extraordinary time. The relatively low number of Covid-19 cases in our county, and the introduction of free testing, reflects well on the diligent efforts of our county and cities to take precautionary measures guided by sound science.

Many people have drawn parallels between the coronavirus crisis and our ongoing climate crisis. There are many lessons to be learned and applied in order to build our resilience as a community.

The Napa County Bicycle Coalition's Slow Streets proposal for the city of Napa is one such application. Reducing car traffic and making our neighborhood streets more pedestrian and bicycle friendly has many benefits: increased safety, health benefits from exercise, reduced noise, and reduced emissions that contribute to poor air quality and to climate change. Property owners will find that such measures can increase property values as well. I encourage you to adopt this proposal.

But that's just the start. I hope you will seriously consider closing down streets to car traffic in downtown Napa during busy shopping hours, such as on Fridays and weekends. Our restaurants and merchants would be able to set up tables and displays outdoors with ample room to assure safe social distancing. There's plenty of evidence from cities across the US and around the world that such pedestrian streets consistently increase sales, which would help our city's tax base at a time when such funds are sorely needed. This would also likely support foot traffic in the adjacent pedestrian mall into which the city has already invested so much money.

Additional revenue generation, such as charging for parking or for special events, could further discourage automobile traffic, and reinforce good habits. In time, when the pandemic subsides, restoring and expanding free transit services, ideally using electric trolleys and buses, on optimized routes already identified by the Vine, would help to round this proposal out, connecting city residents along all of its major corridors, servicing schools as well as businesses.

Incentivizing our residents and tourists alike to engage in active transportation will reinforce Napa's reputation as a great place to live, work and visit, while reducing car miles and their associated greenhouse gases.

Sincerely,
Linda Brown

[REDACTED]

Napa, CA 94559

City Council Meeting

5/19/2020

Supplemental I - 3. Public Comment

From: David Mahaffey

From: [David Mahaffey](#)

To: [Clerk](#)

Cc: [Bayard Fox](#)

Subject: COMMENT TO CITY COUNCIL FOR MAY 19, 2020 MEETING - PLEASE READ

Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 12:15:15 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Napa City Council Members,

I am writing to express my support for the Napa County Bicycle Coalition's Slow Streets initiative. This is the first of several low-cost, high-return measures that can help make Napa city streets safer for bicycles and pedestrians, as well as for students commuting to school, and can help reduce automobile accidents and pollution at the same time. We all need to walk and bicycle more to do our part for a clean and safe environment.

I will add that I am particularly excited to run errands using my electric bike, which has cut my automobile miles by half some weeks. It's great to breathe fresh air, and it's fun.

Sincerely,

David Mahaffey



Napa, CA 94559

From: [Samantha Holland](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: "COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR MAY 19, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ";
Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 12:42:53 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Mayor Techel and City Council Members,

I hope you received and were able to read the letter that I submitted two weeks ago. I am writing again today to share my thoughts with you on why eliminating the Parks and Recreation Department is not in the best interest of our City. My city.

Parks and Recreation is a revenue generating entity. Funding comes in directly from fees paid for services, grants and fundraising but indirectly from the economic stimulus of the trickle down effect of the services it provides. Did you know that Parks and Recreation Departments in the United States generate \$166 BILLION in economic activity and sustained 1.1 million jobs each year? The National Recreation and Parks Association completed a study on the Economic Impact of Local Parks and Recreation, which you can read here: <https://www.nrpa.org/publications-research/research-papers/the-economic-impact-of-local-parks/>-- . The report also looks at the impacts State by State. I think by reading through this information you may be asking yourself why would you not want to look for alternatives to cutting and disbanding a department that will make such a large impact on sustaining and rebuilding our local economy?

By cutting programs and services, you are cutting jobs. 16 full time as proposed correct? But potentially 100's of part time and contractor jobs that are stimulated through the programs and services provided by the Parks and Recreation Department. Jobs that equal revenue. Jobs that stimulate the economy. Jobs that will rebuild and sustain our local economy.

I have heard this theory of "Service Model Changes" and "Getting someone else to do it".... To say this is simply "SMOOSHING EMPLOYEES" into other offices to save rental expenses for the time being and that nothing will be changing is an untruth. The changes will be vast and cuts deep and the public needs to be aware of what that really means.

I firmly believe that cutting so deep into Parks and Recreation is a travesty. It sends a very real message of the priorities and the lack of understanding of the deep value that Parks and Recreation has within a community. It was said that all departments are feeling the cuts but I believe based on the information provided on the slides at that last meeting, forgoing purchasing something is not really feeling the cut. You never had that thing to begin with. Having your whole department ripped apart and half of those people now out of a job... well, that is felt. It is felt deeply and will be throughout this whole community and beyond for many many years to come.

I will end with some questions that will hopefully be addressed publicly at some point:

1. What were the other options analysed? None were presented to the Council and Public in the public meeting format.
2. How was the decision made to propose to decimate that Parks and Recreation Department? Drew the short stick because the Director is retiring?
3. Were there other scenario's presented. In example, what service cuts and layoffs more

equitably across departments would look like and mean to services?

4. Was the loss in revenue and the over arching economic impacts of such a severe cut to parks maintenance, facilities, recreation programs and events and tree maintenance estimated?
5. What are the clear and transparent effects of this proposed plan? Will parks be closed? Will public land become unsafe? Will the senior center close? Will local parks not be maintained? Will more duties be contracted out? Will Las Flores and the Pelusi Building be closed? How about ALSTON and the dog park?
6. Why are the City of Napa Management and Council Members saying publicly that Parks and Recreation programs "Are a NO-NO" right now (Due to social distancing) and are making long term decisions for cuts based on that when our Governor is estimating we will go into Phase 3 of reopening in June? A short term issue should not equal a long term cut.
7. Have other options been analysed for how to not disband the Parks and Recreation Department and maintain a lower level of service for the future.
8. Is the City Council comfortable saying that these services don't mean as much as others while acting on behalf of the WHOLE COMMUNITY?

Thank you for your time,
Samantha Holland
Napa Resident

**City Council Meeting
5/19/2020
Supplemental I - 5.A.
From: Rodney Nickens**

From: Rodney Nickens Jr <rodney@nonprofithousing.org>

Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:43 AM

To: Tiffany Carranza <tcarranza@cityofnapa.org>; Jill Techel <jtechel@cityofnapa.org>; Doris Gentry <dgentry@cityofnapa.org>; Scott Sedgley <SSedgley@cityofnapa.org>; Liz Alessio <lalessio@cityofnapa.org>; Mary Luros <mluros@cityofnapa.org>

Cc: Pedro Galvao <pedro@nonprofithousing.org>

Subject: Responding to the Impact of COVID-19 on Affordable Housing in the city of Napa

[EXTERNAL]

Good Morning Mayor Techel, Vice Mayor Gentry and Councilmembers Sedgley, Alessio, and Luros:

Please see the attached letter from NPH and All Home detailing a list of actions that you can take to address the COVID-19 pandemic on housing and homelessness issues in the city of Napa. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. We look forward to partnering with you to address these critical issues.

Best Regards,

Rodney



RODNEY NICKENS, JR.

Policy Manager

he/him/his

nonprofithousing.org



@RodneyKendell1

T 415.989.8160 x22 | C 202.735.8973

A 369 Pine Street, Suite 350, San Francisco, CA 94104



Friday, May 15, 2020

Napa City Council
Attn: Tiffany Carranza, City Clerk
955 School Street
Napa, CA 94559

Re: Local, State, and Federal Actions to Respond to the Impact of COVID-19 on Affordable Housing in the City of Napa, CA

Dear Mayor Techel, Vice Mayor Gentry and Councilmembers Sedgley, Alessio, and Luros:

The COVID-19 pandemic reveals how critical safe, stable, homes are to our communities' ability to get and stay healthy. We live in interconnected communities, where each person's wellness depends on everyone else, and we will weather this emergency by uniting behind policies that ensure all people have access to safe and stable housing.

The COVID-19 crisis has exacerbated our nation's existing housing crisis, even while revealing how critical safe, stable housing is for our communities' health. People have lost their jobs at a scale rarely seen in American history that is threatening our nation's fundamental ability to keep people housed. At the same time, it is abundantly clear that housing is one of the most critical tools we have to protect our communities from COVID-19, and the necessary foundation to recovery ahead.

Having a safe, stable, place to live is the foundation to recovery and halting the spread of this terrible disease. We need to ensure that no one is homeless or loses their home while the pandemic is raging, but also in what promises to be a long-term recovery from the economic impacts of this global pandemic.

As the elected officials closest to your constituents, you are no doubt being asked to take actions to address their critical housing needs. NPH and All Home are providing critical recommendations on immediate actions that you can take that will significantly help constituents during this crisis while also ensuring stability and solvency of affordable housing for the foreseeable future. You may have taken some of these already -- and we thank you for your leadership. Other options include new ideas and opportunities to support your communities -- and we thank you for your review. We also encourage you to reach out to us to further discuss these options.

Every person's health depends on one another's right now, and you have the authority to make sure all of your constituents have a safe, stable place to get and stay healthy during this pandemic. We also recognize that the state and federal governments have a role to play to ensure all of your constituents are housed which is why we are calling on you to join us in advocating for sweeping rent/debt relief and the classification of affordable housing as essential infrastructure.

We also recommend that all jurisdictions adopt evictions moratoria that go beyond the protections enacted in the Governor's executive order and [the California Judicial Council ruling](#) to address every stage of the eviction process and create clarity and consistency for both tenants and landlords. We also make the following additional recommendations:

Local Level Actions:

1. **Institute a rent freeze:** A rent freeze is an emergency action that your jurisdiction can take to immediately stabilize rents throughout the jurisdiction and ensure that no one is displaced due to a rent increase during the pandemic. This rent freeze should be calibrated to exclude existing rental subsidy programs such as Housing Choice Vouchers (also known as Section 8) as those are automatically adjusted based on income even if the income is zero. This applies to jurisdictions with existing rent stabilization ordinances as well as those without, so long as the rent freeze is compliant with Costa Hawkins.
2. **Use federal funding to provide rent relief for the neediest renters/homeowners:** Jurisdictions with populations over 400,000 and entitlement jurisdictions will receive significant funding from the federal government through the CARES Act, including the COVID Relief Fund.

Some of this funding is flexible to respond to the housing needs that have arisen as a result of COVID-19. We recommend that you work with your local housing authority and/or your housing and community development department to prioritize aid for the lowest income households who can no longer afford to pay rent and mortgages due to COVID. Two funding sources of particular importance are the federally funded Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) and Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), which were provided with increased funding in the federal Stimulus (CARES Act) and allow for payment of back rent and rental assistance as eligible uses.

This increased funding has been made available to most Bay Area Counties and many cities (all counties except Marin and Napa). Particularly, for those residents who live in affordable housing, this could provide a critical lifeline to them and also to the affordable housing organizations to ensure that their doors remain open and tenants stay stably housed. Bay Area affordable housing providers have reported a 15%-20% loss in rental income based on rent due April 1 and expect to see even steeper drops in the coming months.

3. **Establish a rent relief fund for low-income tenants and homeowners:**
Some jurisdictions have flexible funding that can be used to provide relief to low-income tenants and homeowners in this time of need. Others have access to local housing trust funds that could be tapped to provide rent and mortgage relief for low-income tenants and homeowners. We strongly encourage jurisdictions that have access to such funds to immediately tap into them to provide this desperately needed cushion for low-income tenants and homeowners, even if it only functions to fill the gap before the emergency ESG and CDBG funds start to flow to localities. Mortgage relief for rental property owners should be coupled with a guarantee that they will not evict a tenant for non-payment of rent for the period of forbearance or relief.
4. **For larger jurisdictions where your locality has previously provided funding for affordable housing development:**
 - a. Immediately authorize the use of any operating reserves to buffer tenant non-payment of rent.
 - b. Defer all payment of 2019 residual receipts owed to the jurisdiction by affordable housing providers at the property level and allow those to be placed in a reserve for the benefit of the properties and residents. Ideally this would be a pooled reserve that an owner could use across all properties being held in your jurisdiction.
 - c. At the end of the year, if the crisis has subsided, allow the use of any unused residual receipts to forgive the past due rent owed by tenants, starting with the tenants most in need. While the criteria for this can be worked out, the jurisdiction should consider helping the tenants who do not have any form of rent subsidy first. HUD has made it clear at the federal level, that the housing authorities can work with tenants to adjust incomes for Section 8 properties.
5. **We do not support rent suspensions unless they are coupled with support for affordable housing providers and other rental property owners, especially those who rent units at less than fair market rate, as it may lead to the unintended loss of existing affordable housing. If your jurisdiction is considering such measures, they must be coupled with the following:**
 - a. *Any type of rent suspension must be coupled with mortgage and other debt forbearance or direct payment to rental property owners to avoid financial insolvency,* particularly for small “mom and pop” landlords and affordable housing providers. We cannot afford to risk the already limited supply of affordable housing that we have. Affordable housing providers use rental income for essential services other than mortgages and debt service. They use rental income to maintain the buildings and provide on-site services to residents.

If rents are suspended, they are left both financially at risk and potentially unable to provide adequate maintenance and services, exactly when they need to increase sanitation and provide more help to residents for healthcare navigation, food security, and other critical services.

- b. As we saw in the aftermath of the 2008 Recession, many small rental housing properties were lost to foreclosure, then flipped on the speculative market resulting in significant rent increases after they were renovated.

State Level Advocacy

We know that your jurisdiction cannot go it alone to address the full housing needs brought on by the COVID pandemic. The State can provide additional relief to tenants and homeowners impacted by COVID and we ask you to join us in asking the State immediately to:

- **Provide rent/debt relief:** Use a portion of the state's share of the CARES Stimulus (estimated to be \$9.5 billion by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities) for rent/debt relief for low-income tenants and homeowners who can no longer afford to pay their rent or mortgages due to COVID, both to help keep people in their homes and preserve the viability of affordable housing. And continue to advocate that a portion of future stimulus money that the state receives from the federal government be used for rent/debt relief.
- **Prioritize a Flexible Housing Fund for Acquisition/Rehab:** Enable non-profits to quickly acquire hotels/motels being used for emergency response post-pandemic or other multi-family housing that is available for purchase. Couple that with meaningful Medi-Cal reform that enables funding to be used for helping to house and stabilize homeless people.
- **Negotiate with lenders:** Negotiate with lenders deferral/forbearance on mortgage and other debt payments for multi-family affordable properties and create a rent forgiveness fund.
- **Redirect funds to cover operating deficits:** Ask Governor Newsom to issue an executive order that allows for affordable housing owners to use operating reserves and residual receipts to cover operating deficits.
- **Increase funding for Homelessness Prevention, Diversion including housing problem-solving, and Rapid Rehousing.**

Federal Level Advocacy

The scale of the pandemic calls for federal investment at a scale rarely seen in US history. With tens of millions of jobless claims already filed and more expected, it is critical that the federal government shore up our low-income renters and homeowners and put people back to work.

To that end NPH and All Home [authored a statement](#) that gathered signatures from 100+ organizations across the state to call on the federal government to provide sweeping rent and mortgage relief and to classify affordable housing as essential infrastructure.

We are still gathering signatures for our federal statement and [we encourage you to sign on here](#).

Elected officials must act with the urgency and resources that will ensure that all of our neighbors, no matter their income, race, or immigration status, have a place to get and stay healthy. This health and economic crisis underscores how foundational housing is to the health, equity, and economic success of all Americans and our nation, and exposes the need for Congressional action immediately and ahead.

We can no longer tolerate systems and status quo that perpetuates the “haves” and the “have nots,” the housed and unhoused. Our goal should not be to put things back to the way things were, but to build the just and sustainable communities we always deserved. We need significant political commitment and urgent action to end homelessness and to address the lack of affordable housing in California and our country. Every person deserves a stable place to live, be safe, and thrive in health and well-being. We invite you to join us and help make it happen.

Sincerely,

Amie Fishman
Executive Director
NPH

Tomiquia Moss
Executive Director
All Home