



Public Spaces Commission

Special Meeting

AGENDA

<https://zoom.us/j/91565369558>

Meeting ID: 915 6536 9558

March 22, 2022 - 5:00 PM

1. **ROLL CALL**

2. **INTRODUCTIONS**

3. **PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

5. **COMMISSIONERS REPORTS**

5.a. Susan Knopf-Orr St Bridge

Recommended Action:

Attachments:

1. Knopf-orr st bridge
2. 5a Correspondence Received - Pinky Kushner

6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS (DISCUSSION ONLY)**

7. **AUDIENCE COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

The Public Spaces Commission welcomes input from the audience. In order for everyone to be heard, please limit your comments to three (3) minutes per person and not more than (10) minutes per subject. The Brown Act regulations do not allow action to be taken on audience comments.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

8.a. Elect Chair and Vice Chair, and Introductions of Commission Members and Staff.

Recommended Action: Elect Chair and Vice Chair.

Attachments: None

8.b. Establish a Regular Meeting Date, Time, and Location for the Public Spaces Commission.

Recommended Action: Establish a Regular Meeting Date, Time, and Location for the Public Spaces Commission.

Attachments: None

- 8.c. Review, edit, approve the draft Community Outreach plan and Activity Schedule

Recommended Action: Approve the draft Community Outreach Plan and Activity Schedule

Attachments:

1. PSC Outreach Plan 2021Attach1
2. Outreach Gantt and Outcome Measures 1

9. ADJOURNMENT

Please be advised that the City needs to be notified 72 hours in advance of a meeting if any specific accommodations or interpreter services are needed in order for you to attend. The City complies with ADA requirements and will attempt to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities upon request. Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Public Spaces Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the main entrance of the City of Ukiah Annex, located at 411 W. Clay St., Ukiah, CA 95482, not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting set forth on this agenda.

Mikki Taylor
Receptionist/Clerk

Date: July 2, 2020

To: Ukiah City Council Members
Craig Schlatter, Community Development Director; Sage Sangiacomo, City Manager

From: Paths, Open Space, and Creeks Commission

Re: Support for Foot Bridge Path and Open Space for the Wagenseller Neighborhood

The Paths, Open Space and Creeks Commission (POSCC) is writing to express our strong support for a safe bridge and open space area for the Wagenseller neighborhood.

The mission of POSCC is to provide recommendations and advice regarding implementation of the open space and conservation element of the Ukiah General Plan, implementation of the pathway sections of the transportation element of the Ukiah General Plan, and procedure and funding mechanisms for acquisition, preservation, and effective stewardship of city paths, open space, and creeks.

This Project aligns with POSCC goals by supporting effective stewardship of a safe foot bridge path and open space area for children and adults of the Wagenseller neighborhood. Funding was provided for this project in 2010, and POSCC recommends the engineering report be completed as it is a necessary prerequisite for implementation of the project.

The current blighted state of the bridge discourages pedestrian use and bicycling. Studies have shown that homeless encampments and drug dealing are more likely to occur in isolated areas where the general populace does not wish to congregate. A refurbished Orr Street Bridge would attract more foot traffic and keep homeless encampments outside of the riparian corridor. Hopefully, with one less opportunity to camp in and around a creek, more homeless people would seek shelter and services in less harmful and more visible environments.

We are aware that the Wagenseller neighborhood has long been an underserved area regarding open space and outdoor recreational opportunities, particularly for children. In 2009 Director Erickson assured the Wagenseller Neighborhood Association that the City would maintain the bridge so it is structurally sound and funds were placed in the budget for that purpose. The Orr Street (foot) Bridge needs to remain closed to vehicle traffic for the benefit and health of the Wagenseller neighborhood. Since 2009, numerous emails have been exchanged and meetings taken place. Complaints have been sent to City Council members regarding this "most neglected neighborhood in the City." The area where the Orr Street Bridge is located remains a blighted neighborhood and residents have serious safety concerns. Ten years after initial funds were allocated for refurbishment, the bridge remains dangerous to walk across and the area is a magnet for drug activity, homeless encampments and trash dumping.

This neighborhood is lacking a safe open space area for children to play and benefit from healthy outdoor activities, and for adults and older citizens to enjoy walking around. The neighborhood needs open space and attractive outdoor recreational activities.

The remedy is to have the Orr Street Bridge refurbished and provide the neighborhood with some open space for their kids to play safely, off the streets. This does not require further funding, rather it simply requires engineering plans to be submitted to the City Council, and the plans accepted for project

This project will enable the City of Ukiah to support the Wagenseller neighborhood to enjoy a higher degree of quality of life by having a currently hazardous bridge repaired or replaced, and an open space area to enjoy natural resources as well as a place for children to safely play outside and off the streets. The inordinate delay in getting this straightforward project completed is simply inexplicable.

We strongly recommend the City Council use established funding to repair the hazardous bridge and secure the 100-foot buffer along Orr Creek from homeless encroachment from top of bank on Orr Creek to the RCHDC mixed use housing. This will create a safe place for children to play in a natural area, and for all neighborhood residents to enjoy natural resources. We further recommend the City Council work with the Rural Communities Housing Development Corporation (RCHDC) to retain the 2.5 open space acres next to the 80-unit mixed housing development to remain as open green space for the benefit and enjoyment of the neighborhood.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Knopf". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Susan" being more prominent than the last name "Knopf".

Susan Knopf, POSCC Commissioner Vice-Chair

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Documents

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Receipts

Travel

Folders

Hide

+ New Folder

CERT

Drafts

protest letters

Sent Messages

setter

untitled

victoria

Agenda item 12 c for City Council
of 1-19-22

Yahoo Mail/Sent



susan knopf <smknopf@yahoo.com>
 To: klawler@cityofukiah.com,
 Megan Prout, Jeanne Chinn,
 Christopher Watt, Neil Davis
 and 4 more...



Tue, Jan 18 at 2:33 PM

Gentlepeople of the City Council,

This letter is to comment on issues for the proposed new commission.

It's easier to explain if I go backwards:

- 1) People may choose to assess the activity of a commission by reviewing the minutes of Commission meetings.
- 2) As you know the City of Ukiah has chosen to use a form of minutes called "action minutes," which means that only motions are recorded in the minutes. No discussions are included in the minutes.
- 3) An item of interest must be on the agenda before a motion on the item can be initiated. Staff for both Parks, Rec and Golf, and Paths, Open Spaces and Creeks have often not respected Commissioner requests for an item to be put on the agenda. Staff have had numerous excuses, but the result is that Commissioners have not been able to initiate motions and, hence, actions.
- 4) Thus, no agenda item, no motion, no minutes, resulting in the question, "What have those Commissioners been doing?" It is, therefore, vital that Commissioners be allowed, even encouraged, to submit agenda items.

With regard to POSCC, staff have repeatedly cancelled our meetings. My understanding of the Brown Act is that it is up to Commissioners to cancel the meetings. If we had managed to get an item on the agenda, and the meeting were cancelled, then staff repeatedly did not put that item on the next agenda, and it would get lost. Similarly, we can meet without a quorum, we just can't vote on motions.

We appreciate the help that staff give us, but staff do not have to be present for a commission to meet. The Commissioners can still meet and the public and staff are

POPULAR

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Our 8" Non
Pan is sized
perfect over

Kristine - my printer
doesn't print out emails very
well, but this letter must
be in your computer for
city council 1/19/22

TO: the Public Spaces Commission
RE: Orr St. bridge

Greetings!

I have been a long time supporter of the Orr St. bridge as a public open space/park.

In reviewing the agenda of Tuesday's special meeting of the Public Spaces Commission, I see that item 5.a. is to take "Recommended Action." I want to express my full endorsement of moving ahead with rehabilitating the Orr St. Bridge to insure the safety of its use as a public gathering space.

On a related topic, it is my understanding that the City of Ukiah has engaged a public relations/ planning firm to help collect information about the bridge. I think this firm is to begin its work on the bridge by meeting with 'stakeholders,' naturally including members of the staff of the City of Ukiah.

Additional to City staff, the very first meeting should include City representatives from the City's commissioners of the two previous commissions, Parks and Open Space and Parks and Recreation. A third category of 'stakeholder' that surely must be included in this first meeting is a representative from long-time community leaders of the Wagensellers Neighborhood group.

Sincerely,

Pinky Kushner
504 N. Oak St.
Ukiah, CA. 95482
510 459-8289

Public Spaces Commission Community Outreach Plan

11/2021

The Mission of the Public Spaces Commission (PSC) is to foster a culture of informed community participation in the planning and implementation of the wise use of public spaces. The seven-member PSC shall have the power and duty to solicit, collate, and analyze public input on the wise use of public spaces and; provide recommendations and advice to both staff and the City Council based on said input. Additionally, PSC members in collaboration with staff may choose to form “working groups” to explore and formulate advice or recommendations on specific areas regarding the wise use of public spaces.

In support of the PSC mission, City staff will;

1. Convene Biannual Community Input Forums
2. Prepare a Quarterly Public Spaces E-Newsletter
3. Convene four time per year Public Input Forum planning meetings
4. Prepare and distribute a monthly Parks and Recreation Update Video
5. Provide staff support to working groups on mutually agreed upon topics
6. Assist the PSC in an annual update to this plan.

Public Spaces Biannual Community Input Forums

The Public Spaces Biannual Community Input Forums will be held as hybrid in-person and online events. Meetings will be planned to cover two to four prearranged topics with time available for discussion of an unplanned topic at attendee consensus request. The PSC will work with staff to decide upon topics and presenters. City staff will prepare presentations that will include Q&A sessions after the presentations. Forums will be recorded and available on the City You Tube Channel

Prepare a Quarterly Public Spaces E-Newsletter

E-Newsletter will cover the same topics as Community Input Forum to allow for an additional medium for distribution. E-Newsletter may contain additional material. E-Newsletter will be distributed to an interested parties list and be available online.

Convene four time per year PSC Public Input Forum Planning and Workgroup meetings

These meetings will allow PSC members the opportunity to work with staff to plan the Community Input Forums and to report on PSC working group activities.

Prepare and distribute a monthly Parks and Recreation Update Video

The Community Services Supervisor or Designee will record a video presentation with updates on the Parks and Recreation activities. The presentation will be based on the report that has traditionally been provided to the Parks, Rec, and Golf Commission (PRGC) but it will be made available to a much wider audience through You Tube, social, media, and e-newsletter.

Working Groups

PSC members will be encouraged to form Working Groups both among themselves as well as with members of the public to pursue areas of interest and to the benefit of effective City management. All working groups should have a City Council member of staff “sponsor” to ensure a collaborative approach.

Attachment 2

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Park/Rec Monthly Update Video												
Quarterly Newsletter												
Planning / Work Group Meetings												
Biannual Community Forum												

Annual Update to Outreach Plan presented to Council for approval

Annual PSC Activity Report to Council

Social Media - Facebook	# of Posts	Likes	Shares	Comments
Social Media - You tube	# of videos	Views		
E-Newsletter	Subscribers	Opens		
Meetings	# of Meetings	# of attendees	# of presentations(subjects)	
	# of working groups/#of memebbers/work product			