

**TOWN OF LOS GATOS  
PARKS AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION AGENDA  
APRIL 06, 2026  
41 MILES AVENUE, PPW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
6:00 PM**

*Chirag Mapara, Chair  
Kimberly Vrijen, Vice-Chair  
Mike Buncic, Commissioner  
Brant Corenson, Commissioner  
Craig Gleason, Commissioner  
Linus Lundberg, Commissioner  
Carla Richard, Commissioner*

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

This meeting will be held in person at the location listed above. Members of the public may provide written or oral comments on agenda items by following the instructions listed at the end of the agenda.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**CONSENT ITEMS** *(Items appearing on the Consent are considered routine Town business and may be approved by one motion. Members of the public may provide input on any Consent Item(s) when the Chair asks for public comment on the Consent Items. Each speaker is limited to three minutes or such time as authorized by the Chair.)*

1. Approve Parks and Sustainability Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2026

**VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS** *(Members of the public are welcome to address the Parks and Sustainability Commission on any matter that is not listed on the agenda and is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. During special meetings, members of the public are welcome to address the Commission only on items listed on the agenda. Town resources may not be used to facilitate audio or visual presentations. To ensure all agenda items are heard, this portion of the agenda is limited to 30 minutes. In the event additional speakers were not able to be heard during the initial Verbal Communications portion of the agenda, an additional Verbal Communications will be opened prior to adjournment. Each speaker is limited to three minutes or such time as authorized by the Chair.)*

**OTHER BUSINESS** *(Each speaker is limited to three minutes or such time as authorized by the Chair.)*

- [2.](#) Urban Forest Management Plan Progress Report (Written Report)
- [3.](#) Native Plant Grant Application (Written Report)
4. Participation in Town of Los Gatos Spring into Green Event April 26, 2026 (Verbal Report)
5. Participation in Town of Los Gatos Fourth of July Event July 4, 2026 (Verbal Report)
6. Discussion of Potential Ad Hoc Committees (Verbal Report)

7. Location of June and August 2026 Meetings
8. Parks and Public Works Report (Verbal Report)
  - a. Operations Updates
  - b. Future Agenda Items
    - i. MidPenn Kennedy Road Trailhead

## COMMISSIONER REPORTS

## ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting scheduled: June 1, 2026

**ADA NOTICE** - In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you require special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk's Office at (408) 354-6834. Please notify the Clerk's Office at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting so that reasonable arrangements can be made to ensure accessibility in compliance with 28 CFR §35.102-35.104 and related provisions.

**NOTICE REGARDING SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS** - Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Commission after initial distribution of the agenda packets are available for public inspection in the Clerk's Office at Town Hall, 110 E. Main Street, Los Gatos, and on the Town's website at [www.losgatosca.gov](http://www.losgatosca.gov). Town Commission agendas and related materials can be viewed online at <https://losgatos-ca.municodemeetings.com/>.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

The Town of Los Gatos strongly encourages your active participation in the public process. If you are interested in providing oral comments during the meeting, you must attend in-person. If you wish to speak to an item on the agenda, please list the item number on the speaker card. The time allocated to speakers may change to better facilitate the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting in-person, you are welcome to submit written comments via email to [ppwcomment@losgatosca.gov](mailto:ppwcomment@losgatosca.gov).

### Public Comment During the Meeting:

When called to speak, please limit your comments to three (3) minutes, or such other time as the Chair may decide, consistent with the time limit for speakers at a Town meeting.

Speakers at public meetings may be asked to provide their name and to state whether they are a resident of the Town of Los Gatos. Providing this information is not required.

### Deadlines to Submit Written Comments:

If you are unable to participate in person, you may email [ppwcomment@losgatosca.gov](mailto:ppwcomment@losgatosca.gov) with the subject line "Public Comment Item #\_" (insert the item number relevant to your comment). Persons wishing to submit written comments to be included in the materials provided to the Commission must provide the comments as follows:

11:00 a.m. the day the agenda packet is posted for inclusion in the agenda packet.

1:00 p.m. each business day after the agenda is posted until the business day before the meeting for inclusion in supplemental materials.

11:00 a.m. the day of the commission meeting for inclusion in supplemental materials.

Comments received after 11:00 a.m. the day of the Commission meeting will not be distributed as a desk item; however, public comment may be submitted during the meeting pursuant to Council Policy 2-01.



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS  
PARKS AND SUSTAINABILITY  
COMMISSION REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 04/06/2026

ITEM NO: 1

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**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 02, 2026**

The Town of Los Gatos Parks and Sustainability Commission conducted a Regular Meeting on February 02, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:00 p.m.**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Chair Gleason, Vice-Chair Mapara, Commissioners Corenson, Buncic, Lundberg, Richard (arrived 6:02 pm), Vrijen.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

1. Approve Parks and Sustainability Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of December 02, 2025

**MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Vrijen** to approve the second draft of the minutes.

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Buncic.

**VOTE:** Motion passed 5-0-1; Commissioner Richard absent.

**VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Commissioner Richard arrived at 6:02 pm

2. Nominations and Elections for 2026 Chair and Vice Chair  
Chair Gleason opened the nominations for Chair and Vice Chair.

**MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Corenson** to nominate Vice-Chair Mapara to Chair.

Commissioner Vrijen suggested to close any further nominations.

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Buncic.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION: Motion by Chair Mapara** to nominate Commissioner Vrijen to Vice-Chair.

Commissioner Buncic suggested to close any further nominations.

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Gleason.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

3. Receive a Report on the Potential Reservation Systems for Town Owned Tennis and Pickleball Courts (Written Report)  
Thomas, Parks and Streets Superintendent, provided a verbal summary of the written report.

The Commission asked questions.

Chair Mapara opened public comment.

The following individuals spoke:

1. Debbie Pinkston
2. Janet Wolf
3. Philip de Louraille
4. Robert Lipp
5. Bill Crites

Chair Mapara closed public comment.

Todd Badger, Recreation Manager, Los Gatos-Saratoga Recreation, provided an overview of operations and the partnership with the City of Saratoga.

Commissioners asked Badger, Recreation Manager questions.

The Commission discussed the item further.

4. 2026 Parks and Sustainability Commission Work Plan (Written Report)  
Director Burnham introduced this item.

Commission provided comments and feedback.

As rephrased by Director Burnham, Items 1 through 4 remain as proposed. Item 5 was revised by the Commission to provide feedback and guidance on a potential work plan with third-party trail maintenance managers. A new Item 6 was added for the Commission to support staff outreach efforts and provide technical guidance in support of the Urban Forest Management Plan.

**MOTION: Motion by** Commissioner Buncic to move with the recommended 2026 Work Plan.

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Vrijen.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

5. Parks and Public Works Report (Verbal Report)
  - a. Operations Updates

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SUBJECT: PARKS AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

DATE: FEBRUARY 02, 2026

Director Burnham and Superintendent Thomas provided a verbal update on the following items: Oak Meadow Park bandstand, Oak Meadow Park play equipment, La Rinconada resurfacing bid scope, and the Urban Forestry Master Plan.

Commission asked questions and discussed this item.

Chair Mapara opened public comments.

Bill Crites commented on the La Rinconada Project.

### **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Commissioner Buncic reported community concerns regarding increased motorcycle activity in open spaces.

Commissioner Gleason commented on the potential for installing trail maps on Main Street.

Commissioner Coresenon shared that the Beautification Committee will meet this Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the February 02, 2026, meeting as approved by the Parks and Sustainability Commission.

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/s/ Nicolle Burnham, Director of Parks and Public Works



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS  
PARKS AND SUSTAINABILITY  
COMMISSION REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 04/06/2026

ITEM NO: 2

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DATE: April 06, 2026  
TO: Parks and Sustainability Commission  
FROM: Nicolle Burnham, Parks and Public Works Director  
SUBJECT: Update on the Los Gatos Urban Forest Management Plan

**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive a written report announcing the commencement of the Los Gatos Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) Project and community survey via social media and point community members to the project webpage for more information.

**REMARKS:**

The Los Gatos Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) project, a first-of-its-kind 15-year planning effort for the Town, officially kicked off this last December to guide the long-term care, preservation, and expansion of the community's urban forest. The UFMP will provide a strategic framework of goals and actions intended to improve tree health, climate resilience, wildfire preparedness, and equitable access to the benefits provided by the Town's trees. The Town has hired the environmental consulting firm Dudek to help create the UFMP over the next 15 months. Dudek is also currently serving as the Town's on-call consulting arborist for tree removal permits, as well as working with the Town on a wildfire evacuation plan project and a roadside vegetation management project. The UFMP project is currently in the analysis and community engagement phase. Staff interviews are being conducted, and Town documents are being reviewed to understand the Town's current urban forest management program, policies and practices, a Town-wide canopy cover analysis has begun, and analysis will begin shortly to understand the condition and diversity of Town's public trees. An urban forest background and operations report, and an urban forest assessment report will be completed by August of this year. The first draft of the UFMP is expected to be completed in October 2026.

Earlier this month, the project team completed a Public Outreach Plan and created a [webpage](#) for the UFMP project on the Town's website which provides an overview of the project as well as announcements of planned outreach events. As part of the outreach effort, the project team has created an urban forest [community survey](#), which will be open from mid-March through the end of May, to gather input from residents, workers, visitors, and students in Los

**PREPARED BY:** Tyler Thomas  
Superintendent

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SUBJECT: Update on the Los Gatos Urban Forest Management Plan

DATE: April 06, 2026

Gatos on their priorities and values related to trees and urban forest management. In terms of in-person engagement, Dudek staff tabled at the Los Gatos Farmers Market on March 22nd to promote both the survey and the broader UFMP process, engaging attendees and distributing project information. Input gathered during this engagement phase will directly inform the UFMP Technical Advisory Committee (to be formed in the next couple months) and help with the development of UFMP recommendations. The next in-person event Dudek will table for is the Spring into Green Event on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>.



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS  
PARKS AND SUSTAINABILITY  
COMMISSION REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 04/06/2026

ITEM NO: 3

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DATE: April 06, 2026  
TO: Parks and Sustainability Commission  
FROM: Nicolle Burnham, Parks and Public Works Director  
SUBJECT: Native Plant Garden Grant Application

RECOMMENDATION: Consider Possible Native Plantings in Blossom Hill Park

REMARKS:

Parks and Public Works staff were approached by a volunteer group to plant a native species garden in Blossom Hill Park. This is similar to other volunteer planting efforts at Oak Hill Playlot. Staff are supportive of these efforts at planting native gardens but does note that these come with additional maintenance needs. At Oak Hill staff have covered these additional needs. As part of the Commission discussion staff will present information about these maintenance requirements.

The proposal to be received by the Commission includes applying for grant funds to pay for the plant media. At this time staff are unclear what obligations come from the grant funds, and if a private entity can receive the grant funds or whether the Town must sign the grant agreement and/or be a conduit for the funds. Staff recommend that the Town's commitment be discussed during consideration of this topic. If the Town must be a signatory to the grant application or the grant itself then the Commission can make a recommendation to Town Council regarding the grant. Please note that neither the Commission nor the staff can commit to the Town to a grant agreement.

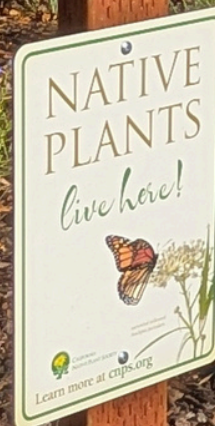
Attachment 1 is a presentation from the volunteer group regarding the proposed grant and associate planting plan.

Attachments:

1. Creating a Pollinator Garden in Blossom Hill Park

PREPARED BY: Nicolle Burnham  
Parks and Public Works Director

# Creating a Pollinator Garden in Blossom Hill Park





## Why Plant Natives?

1. Native plants provide vital food and habitat for pollinators and birds.
2. They are drought adapted and need less water.
3. Natives also tend to have longer roots that filter and clean water, reducing pollution,
4. Native plants thrive when left alone. They need less maintenance than introduced garden plants.
5. Native plants restore soil health which contributes to climate resilience.
6. Native plants resist pests naturally.
7. Native plants support the rich biodiversity of the Bay Area.

# Xerces Garden Kits

Xerces is an International non-profit working to protect invertebrates including bees and butterflies.

Once a year, Xerces provides free kits to plant native garden spaces. These kits are tailored for the location of the garden and are intended to increase the amount of invertebrate habitat.



# Kit for Our Area

## Garden - Central Coast

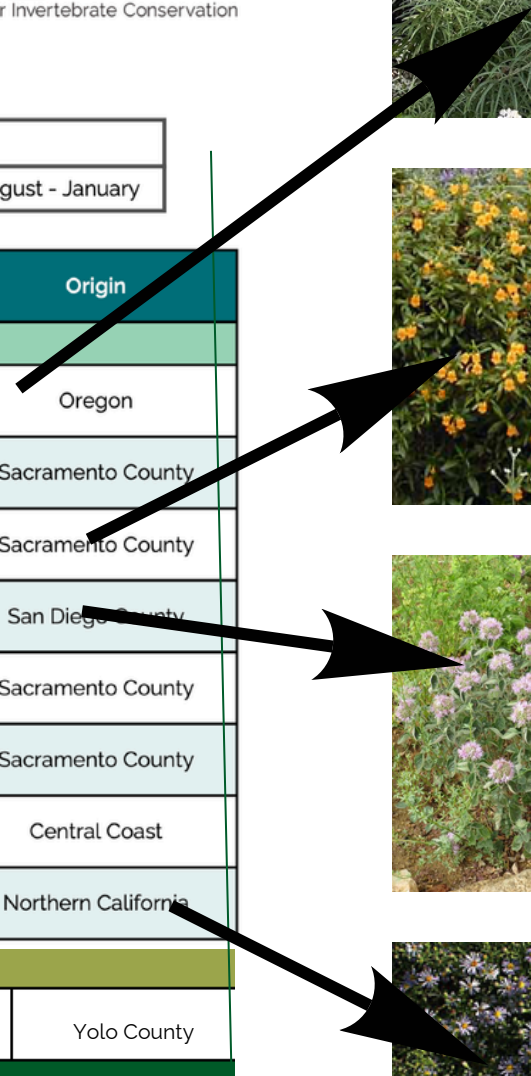


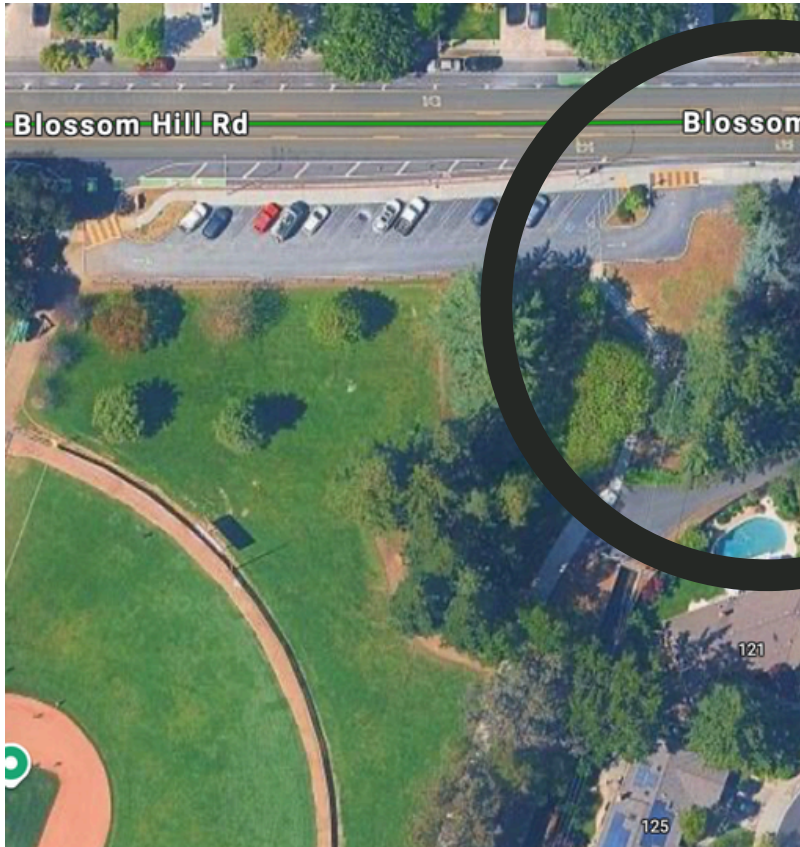
Benefited Pollinators			
Monarch Butterfly	Other declining butterfly	Bumble bee	Specialist / bee of concern

Water Needs		
L = Low	M = Medium	H = High

Bloom Time		
Early: February - April	Mid: May - July	Late: August - January

Scientific Name	Common Name	Number	Bloom Time	Sun Exposure	Water Needs	Size (H x W)	Benefited Pollinators	Origin
<b>Form: Forb</b>								
<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	Pearly everlasting	3	Mid/Late	Full Sun - Partial Shade	L	3' x 3'		Oregon
<i>Asclepias fascicularis</i>	Narrowleaf milkweed	9	Mid	Full Sun - Partial Shade	L - H	2' x 1'		Sacramento County
<i>Diplacus aurantiacus</i>	Sticky monkeyflower	3	Early through Late	Full Sun - Partial Shade	L	4' x 4'		Sacramento County
<i>Monardella villosa</i>	Coyote mint	3	Mid/Late	Full Sun - Partial Shade	M	2' x 3'		San Diego County
<i>Penstemon heterophyllus</i>	Foothill penstemon	3	Early through Mid	Full Sun - Partial Shade	L	3' x 3'		Sacramento County
<i>Phacelia californica</i>	California phacelia	3	Early through Late	Full Sun - Partial Shade	L	1' x 1'		Sacramento County
<i>Solidago velutina ssp. californica</i>	California goldenrod	3	Late	Full Sun	L - M	3' x 6'		Central Coast
<i>Symphotrichum chilense</i>	Pacific aster	3	Late	Full Sun - Partial Shade	L - H	2' x 3'		Northern California
<b>Form: Grass</b>								
<i>Stipa pulchra</i>	Purple needlegrass	3	N/A	Full Sun	L	3' x 2'		Yolo County
<b>Form: Shrub</b>								
<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>	California buckwheat	3	Early through Late	Full Sun - Partial Shade	L	3' x 3'		Sacramento County
Page 13	Total	36						





We are looking at this area on Blossom Hill Road next to the parking lot and between the path and the edge of the park. Currently the area is covered in bark mulch.

# Blossom Hill Park



View from sidewalk on BH Rd. When facing the park, the area is on your left.



View from under redwoods looking towards BH Road

# Oak Hill Play Lot



Bill Broad started this garden in Fall 2024. He did the initial work himself, but quickly had other volunteers interested in helping. The garden is starting to fill in and already looks amazing! Bill will lead the Blossom Hill effort as well

**Before**



**Early days**



**Now**



# Los Gatos Almaden Pollinator Garden



Los Gatos Almaden Pollinator Garden along Los Gatos Almaden Road is another resident maintained native garden.

Both existing gardens have a positive working relationship with the town.

# Plan Timeline

- Xerces proposal due April 10, 2026
- Selections made in May - If not selected, hope to have sufficient donations to fund plant purchase
- Sept/early October - site preparation
- Plants arrive October 21
- October - Planting
- Until Rains Start - Watering the new plants
- Spring 2027 - Weeding and garden maintenance

## Plants begin to grow and flower!

- Summer 2027 - regular watering
- Fall 2027 - ongoing maintenance, planting round 2
- Spring 2028 -

Garden starts to fill in

# **Town Park's Team Input (by October)**

- Hopefully the town can install a quick-access valve or hose bib at one of 6 different boxes labelled water or irrigation near the garden location. Existing quick-access is far from the garden and inconvenient considering that hand watering will be required. Most natives will need supplemental water until they get established. Continued minimal watering keeps native more attractive in the park setting.
- Hopefully the town can provide as-needed mulch to the area to keep weeds to a minimum.
- Avoid pesticide usage near the pollinator garden.

# Project Publicity



- Would like to create a poster about the project to display at Spring into Green. (draft idea on left)
- Would like to collect email addresses from people interested in helping either physically or financially
- Would like to create sign to display in Park with QR Codes to collect additional emails