City of Albany

Albany Hill Master Plan Update
Planning Session

Park and Recreation Commission
Goals and Objectives
July 14, 2011
Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Overview of Consultant Work
   - Work scope, deliverables & schedule
   - Base data collected to date
3. Discussion
   - Vision for Future of Albany Hill and Creekside Parks
   - Goals and Objectives of the vegetation management portion of updated Albany Hill Creekside Master Plan
4. Next Steps
   - Preliminary Strategies
   - Draft Vegetation Management Map
Overview of Consultant Work

- Work scope, deliverables & schedule

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<th>Activity Name</th>
<th>Duration (Days)</th>
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<th>Finish Date</th>
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Base data collected to date

- Information from City Staff
  - 1991 Master Plan
  - GIS base layers from City data
  - City Integrated Pest Management Policy
- Information from Friends of Five Creeks
- Information from Friends of Albany Hill
- Site Reconnaissance
1991 Albany Hill Creekside Master Plan
Vegetation Management Plan
1991 Albany Hill Creekside Master Plan
Master Plan
Current Park Property
Field Verify 1991
Vegetation Management Units
Field Verify 1991 Vegetation Management Units

Riparian
Field Verify 1991 Vegetation Management Units
Lower Grassland
Field Verify 1991 Vegetation Management Units

Oak Woodland
Field Verify 1991 Vegetation Management Units
Eucalyptus Forest
Field Verify 1991 Vegetation Management Units
Toyon Understory
Field Verify 1991 Vegetation Management Units
Upper Grassland
Measure R City Purchase
Riparian/ Lower Grassland/ Oak Woodland
Measure R City Purchase Mixed Woodland between Taft & Jackson
Discussion

Vision for Future of Albany Hill and Creekside Parks

Goals and Objectives of the vegetation management portion of updated Albany Hill Creekside Master Plan
1991 Master Plan Goals

- Protect, maintain and enhance natural features, native vegetation & wildlife habitats of the site.
- Protect cultural resources
- Improve basic services to make the site safe and accessible to all people
- Provide simple amenities which respect the site, educate the user & allow for the appreciation and enjoyment of the site.
1991 Vegetation Management Recommendations

- Protect remaining native stands
  (Remnant oak woodland, grasslands, toyon understory & riparian ecosystems under threat from introduced and invading exotics)
- Protect rare, endangered & sensitive species
- Co-existence of existing eucalyptus forest with protection of woodland and grasslands
- Removal of trees that threaten human safety due to unstable growth or serious fire danger
  - Remove understory debris and fire ladders on annual basis
  - Manage debris to reduce slip potential on trail between Taft & Jackson
1991 Vegetation Management Recommendations continued

- View shed protection - specific corridors:
  - East facing bench – view to east bay hills
  - South west facing bench – view to SF
  - West facing benches – view to Mt Tam + golden gate
  - Taft street circle – view to Mt Tamalpais

- Creek protection and restoration
- Protect wildlife diversity
- Protect archaeological resources
Vegetation Management Questions
raised by site reconnaissance

How much grassland? Narrow trails or wider meadows?

Vision for hilltop eucalyptus forest? Manage for the next generation of eucalyptus trees or allow the forest to age and remove trees as they become hazardous?

Vision for new parklands between Taft and Jackson? Oak woodland? Eucalyptus overstory? Grassland?
Additional considerations

- Managing vegetation to:
  - Reduce fire ignitions (from roadsides, illegal camping or smoking)
  - Reduce flooding (from unmanaged vegetation in creeks/banks)
  - Discourage illegal camping (potential for fire ignitions and health/safety issues)
  - Improve visibility and security (perceived and actual park user safer)
  - Improve access (overgrown black berry or poison oak)
- Application of City IPM policy
- Education, signage and awareness activities.
Next Steps

Preliminary Strategies
Draft Vegetation Management Map

Park and Recreation Commission Meeting
Thursday Oct 13, 2011
Draft Long -term Vegetation Management Plan