

GPAC Meeting #13

Dear GPAC Members,

On Thursday, February 11, 2021, from 7 – 9 PM, the City of Culver City will hold its 13th GPAC meeting. At this meeting, we will focus on parks, recreation, and open space.

The purposes for the meeting include the following:

- Provide an overview of the **GPAC process** to date.
- Provide a summary of the first round of **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings**, held in December 2020.
- Provide a quick **overview of parks, recreation, and open spaces** in Culver City.
- Discuss **main issues and opportunities related to parks, recreation, and open spaces** facing Culver City through 2045.
- **Brainstorm** on issues, vision, goals, and strategies related to the above topics that can be included in the General Plan.

The memo provides background information and poses some questions for you to consider before the meeting.

Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Overview

Parks, recreation, and open spaces are critical for improving health and wellbeing, beautifying communities, connecting people to nature, and providing opportunities for social interaction. The benefits of convenient access to public outdoor space, especially in an urban setting, have become increasingly apparent during the COVID-19 pandemic. As Culver City grows and changes through the 2045 General Plan horizon, we are confronted with the challenging task of identifying creative solutions to ensure residents, employees, and visitors have equitable access to high-quality parks, recreational facilities, and open spaces. The City also faces the challenge of offering recreational programming—such as preschools, senior services, and youth activities—that meet the needs of the community. Parks, recreation, and open space also intersect with other General Plan elements and topics, including arts, public safety, and sustainability.

The General Plan needs to address several issues and opportunities, as documented in the [Parks, Public Facilities, and Public Services Existing Conditions Report](#) and [summary video](#). However, some challenges to improving the parks, recreation, and open space system include limited funding for programming and capital improvements, limited availability of developable land, and others.

The input GPAC Members provide during the meeting's discussion will help direct GPU team on potential General Plan policies related to parks, recreation, and open spaces. The team from Raimi + Associates will lead a discussion based on findings derived from existing conditions analyses, conversations with City staff, and results from community engagement to date.

Resources

Because this meeting will not cover existing conditions as in-depth as previous GPAC meetings, **it is very important that Members take at least 15-20 minutes to review the following background information** on parks, recreation, and open space in Culver City:

- City of Culver City Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department Resources: <https://www.culvercity.org/Explore/Parks-Recreation>
- General Plan Update Parks, Public Facilities, and Public Services Existing Conditions Report: https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d950bfaae137b5f0cbd75f5/t/5f52a1c3f0c7ef795c8edf66/1599250917520/CCGPU_ParksPublicFacilities_2020_0805_WebCavidMemo.pdf
- Existing Conditions Video Series on Parks, Recreation, and Open Space: <https://www.pictureculvercity.com/latest-news/ecr-parks>
- City of Culver City Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update: https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d950bfaae137b5f0cbd75f5/t/6009ce5e0832de18e0d84334/1611255454580/1_2009_ParksandRecreationM.pdf

Guiding Questions

In addition, please think about the following questions:

- What parts of the city are most in need of improved access to parks, recreational facilities, and open spaces?
- What actions should the General Plan prioritize to **improve access to and availability of parks, recreational facilities, and open spaces?**
- What types of **amenities** (e.g. dog parks, lighting, meeting rooms) do you anticipate will be most needed in the City's parks and recreational system throughout the 2045 General Plan horizon?
- What types of **programming** (e.g. preschools, senior services) do you anticipate will be most needed in the City's parks and recreational system throughout the 2045 General Plan horizon?
- What actions should the General Plan prioritize to **improve amenities and programming?**
- What types of **partnerships** should the City prioritize in the General Plan vision, goals, and strategies to support equitable access to the benefits of these, amenities, and programming?

Should you have any questions before the meeting, please feel free to reach out. Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you on Thursday the 11th at 7 PM sharp. Please plan for the meeting to end around 9 PM.

- The General Plan Team