10 - COUNCILMEMBER MAHAN



Robert Braunstein
Council District 10
Representative

Presentation from Task Force Member







The Problem:

Currently San Jose Parks are not being maintained at acceptable levels.

Parks have a huge backlog of maintenance problems into the millions of dollars.

City workers are unable to keep on top of problems of all kinds Including gopher and squirrel holes, plumbing and sprinkler maintenance and trimming of brush and trees.

Lawn areas are now dirt and weeds.

In D-10 the main concern with parks is the maintenance not building New parks.





Challenges:

Parks are not being maintained right now for a variety of reasons

According to Tory O'Reilly, Parks Manager the city is not able to hire enough workers to fill current budgeted positions.

She says even if these budgeted positions were filled there would not be enough stuff to maintain the parks properly, and certainly not enough to overcome the backlog.





Maintenance in regard to Park Fees

Why are we building new parks and new park projects when the city is unable to maintain them?

Fees cannot be used for park maintenance although there is at least one case where these fees were used for maintenance.

Is there a way to change existing regulations to allow for a portion Of these fees to be spent on maintenance?

How can we go to the people of San Jose and ask for more park fees when they are well aware current parks are poorly maintained?

Can developers refuse to pay fees when they know their funds will go to parks that are not being maintained?



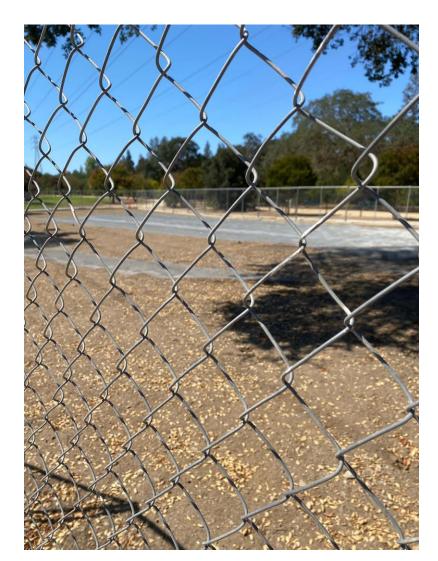


Park Projects:

We are working with parks on a new sod area with gopher wire.

Our parks association put up half the funds and our councilmembers office the other half.

This project is now seven months behind schedule. We have lost confidence the city can complete this project in a quality way and fear if it is completed it will not be maintained.





Possible Solutions

The City finds a way to include park maintenance as part of Developer Park Fees.

The City is able to fully staff its maintenance department.

The City hires outside companies to take over all or part of the maintenance.

Group Discussion