

Agenda for D6NLG (District 6 N'hd Leaders Group), June 3rd, 2024, 7 PM

>> **meeting was recorded** for use by D6NLG members.

Video: https://calsj.org/D6/recordings/Jun'24_video.mp4;

chat text: https://calsj.org/D6/recordings/Jun'24_chat.txt

Meeting Agenda:

- Welcome and Introductory Remarks – Larry Ames, chair. [Laurel Prevetti retirement, 6/23/24](#)
- Agenda Changes/additions?
- Attendee Introductions – Name / Organization / Title
 - Larry Ames, Chair
 - Bill Rankin, Vice Chair, NWGNA, & SOT
 - Joe Rois, SJ Auditor's Dept, guest speaker
 - Ali Pauly, SJ Auditor's Dept, guest speaker
 - Hiwad Haider, SJ Auditor's Dept, guest speaker
 - Steve Kline, Board aide to Co. Sup. Susan Ellenberg; Friends of Bascom Library
 - Jim Carter, SJ N'hds Cmsn
 - Roark Clayton, Glenside-Riviera NA
 - Chuck Cantrell, Gardner NA; SJ Planning Cmsnr; Keep Coyote Crk Beautiful
 - Susan Price, RoseGlen NA
 - Kathy Sutherland, Delmas Park NA; S+NI
 - Helen Chapman, OSA Board
 - Ed Saum, SHPNA, Alameda Business Association
 - Jean Dresden, SJ Parks Advocates
- Guest speaker: Joseph Rois of the City Auditor's Dept., incl. discussion on purpose of Auditor, some of their recent studies, and various outcomes.
 - performance audits of city depts., look to see how to improve; make recommendations
 - directly reports to Council rather than City Mngr. -- Independent; defined by City Charter
 - have done audits of numerous depts.: public safety, police, library, park, code enforcement, etc.
 - special funds, like airport
 - Integrated Waste Management: trash pickup
 - Housing Dept: review of online dashboard; reco'd uniformity in info reporting
 - Animal services; Language Services; Performance metrics ...
 - Any impact? Yes: follow-up after 6 mo w/ report to Council
 - Audits are published on the city website: SanJoseCA.gov → Your Government → City Auditor; can find audit reports and follow-ups
 - Services report w/ survey of public opinions
 - Q: audit of homeless services? A: State audit of state finances in April; city may request audit of city services. Housing Dept has some services. Q: send info to school districts? Outreach A: ads on VTA buses.
 - Q: does it take vote of Council to request an audit? A: no; even the public can suggest a topic. Rules Cmte in August will set work plan for the year.
 - Q: what's status of Animal Shelter audit? A: report due out at Oct NSE Cmte; lots of issues to study.
- Corrections to [minutes¹](#) from May 6th meeting? [close enough](#)
 - agendas, minutes, and position papers are archived on <https://calsj.org/D6/>

¹ <http://calsj.org/D6/D6NLG%20Agenda,%20May%202024%20w%20notes.pdf>

- adding links for member associations, upcoming events, and other resources.
- Elected Officials / Staff Updates
 - Supervisor Ellenberg – Steve Kline
 - County Budget; \$250M shortfall.
 - Trusted Response Urgent Support Team (TRUST) Van, so don't need police for mental issues
 - public mtg on personal safety for seniors; scams
 - Councilmember Davis – Mary Anne Groen no report; invite Fred Buzo next time?
 - Helen says Mayor's budget message coming out soon.
 - Measure E for what type of housing
 - High-rise discounts; also discount or eliminate all park fees for also low- and mid-rise bldgs
- Continuing Business:
 - Updates on "Development Fee Framework," "Unified Fee," "High-rise tax incentives," Mayor's proposal for commercialization of city parks, and the impacts to Park funding.
 - We have submitted [Letter to Council](#)² re: City Budget and Park Funding, 5/8/24
 - >> D6NLG action? Letter; speak at Council 6/11/24.
 - Results of polling. Ballot measure for funding? Mayor wants Charter amendment so Council could lease themselves, rather than requiring public vote. Non-profits? -- housing? June 18th.
 - Follow-up letter to Mayor & Council³ "clarifying" definition of "Parks"
 - Council delayed from June to maybe Aug or Sept. Postponed; maybe city wants to sell some (e.g., Bascom Community Centers): not "protected chartered park land" (community gardens, dog parks)
 - Formal tent housing: Kelley Park disk golf & also next to Vietnamese Gardens?
 - Downtown High-rise Incentives. Note: "One Engine Inoperative" (OEI) limitation removed → can build taller downtown (but still financially infeasible). City offering further park-fee discounts & no affordable-housing and no construction fees: want to jump-start development to keep Planning Dept functional. Discounts on downtown high-rises have limited impact on rest of city, but now there's a push to extend the discounts to low- and mid-rise buildings as well, and citywide rather than just downtown → no money for parks. Request: send letter from D6NLG on topic.
 - Q: what happens if/when interest rates drop? A: discount for sure on 4,000 units. Mayor is pushing staff to recommend elimination of ALL fees. No park money from General Funds; no fees → no park improvements/repairs. Important to speak at June 11th mtg. [Was postponed to 6/18/24]
 - Mayor wants "conservancies"; works in NYC, not here.
 - Once the fees are discounted, it's very hard to ever raise them later.
 - Consensus to write letter: [D6NLG Letter to Council](#)⁴, 6/7/24
 - Also note: if Google doesn't build, their promises for parklands goes away, and if some other developer comes by, there might not be a req'mnt to pay for parks...
 - Also: Polling on leasing of city parks and/or parcel tax (6/18/24, Council agenda item 3.5): [\[SJADLG letter to Council 6/14/24; advocates "Joint Letter" \(6/13/24\); LLA's talk \(6/18/24\)\]](#)
 - >> **Elect D6NLG Chair & VC.** (Bylaws say we elect in June, take office July 1st.) Larry Ames reelected Chair, Bill Rankin reelected Vice-Chair.
 - Update on hosting of Candidates' Forum this fall: D6 Council; SCVWD Board

² <https://calsj.org/D6/D6NLG--ParkFunding,May2024.pdf>

³ <http://calsj.org/D6/D6NLG-Parks,Feb.2024.pdf>

⁴ <https://calsj.org/D6/D6NLGtoMayor&Council-DowntownHighRiseDiscounts.pdf>

- aim for mid Sept.? try for Westminster Presbyterian? Moderator?
 - planning cmte: Larry, Art, Mary, Bill, Jim, Kathy, Cat; Helen & Pat (if no conflict-of-interest).
- Board and Commission Updates
 - Neighborhood Commission → “N’hd Assoc. Engagement Model” – Jim Carter no report
 - Parks & Rec Cmsn – Larry Ames (D3): [Downtown High-rise Incentive/park funding \[letter from SJ Parks & Rec Cmsn⁵, 6/5/24 and LLA’s talk⁶ \(6/18/24\)\]](#); Meadowfair (near Eastridge); Guadalupe Gardens Master Plan amendment (SJC); “Sakauye Family Park” (at Montague Expwy); Overfelt Gardens MP update.
 - All Dist. Lead’shp Group – Larry Ames / Bill Rankin / Jim Carter will send letter re: park funding: [letter from SJADLG⁷, 6/7/24](#)
- Advocacy and Community Group updates; other new topics
 - Ed Saum: construction happening on new park on Hanchett at The Alameda!
 - Save Our Trails -- Bill Rankin. Picnic on Sat., 6/8/24 by Olinder dog park
 - SJ Park Advocates -- Jean Dresden
- Old business:
 - updates or follow-up questions; roundtable discussion of issues local to individual communities
- Date for next mtg: **July 1st**, on Zoom. Do we take July off? -- can call a mtg if issues arise. [There **will** be July mtg, to discuss community input for planning of park parcel tax ballot.]
- Additional topics? Announcements? Final thoughts? Adjourn!

⁵ <https://calsj.org/D6/PRC-Letter6.18.24-Item8.2.pdf>

⁶ <https://calsj.org/D6/LLA-talkHighRiseDiscount,June2024.pdf>

⁷ <https://calsj.org/D6/SJADLG--Parks&HighRiseDiscounts,Jun2024.pdf>