



17575 PEAK AVENUE MORGAN HILL CA 95037

15600 CONCORD CIRCLE MORGAN HILL CA 95037

<b>Meeting Location:</b>	Committee Member	Steve Tate
<b>City of Morgan Hill</b>	Committee Member	Larry Carr
<b>Grand Conference Room</b>	Committee Member	Rich Constantine (Alternate)
<b>17575 Peak Avenue</b>	Committee Member	Bob Benevento
<b>Morgan Hill, CA 95037</b>	Committee Member	Ron Woolf
	Committee Member	Donna Ruebusch (Alternate)
	Staff	Steve Rymer
	Staff	Steve Betando

**CITY /SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING  
FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2016  
MINUTES**

Mayor Tate called the meeting to order at 8:30am

Present: Mayor Steve Tate, Council Member Rich Constantine, City Manager Steve Rymer, Police Chief Dave Swing, Community Development Director Andrew Crabtree, Public Works Director Karl Bjarke, Assistant City Manager for Administrative Services Christina Turner, Trustee Bob Benevento, Trustee Ron Woolf, Trustee Donna Ruebusch, Superintendent Steve Betando, Assistant Superintendent Business Services Kirsten Perez, Assistant Superintendent Education Ramon Zavela, Director of Facilities/Maintenance Anessa Espinosa, Director of Construction and Modernization Casino Fajardo, Communications Coordinator Kimberly Beare, Alisa Arce with the Santa Clara County Public Health Department, and Deputy City Clerk Michelle Wilson (note taking).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Pam Torrisi shared that she is interested in learning about what topics will be discussed*

**DECLARATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA**

Per Government Code 54954.2

## 1. Information / Joint Discussion Items

### b) Safe Routes to School Initiatives

*Alisa Arce shared that part of the South County United Health Group is focused on the safe routes to school initiative in our county. They have been working in different communities for eight or nine years now and are excited to bring these approaches to Gilroy and potentially Morgan Hill in the future. Most of the funding is through grants. Currently in Gilroy they have established walking groups of students that meet and walk to school guided by parents. They have also increased the number of kids that are biking to school. Additionally they provide in class education to students about bike safety and provide helmets. Part of the safe and active transportation work group is looking at how they can implement some of this work in Morgan Hill. They are looking to get counts from the schools to learn how the kids are getting to school to find opportunities to increase the number of kids that are walking or biking to school. They are also looking at developing safe routes to schools; the next step is to look for funding. She spoke to the potential funding options.*

*Steve Betando shared that he feels the timing is great. He asked about the potential pool of money that this area was going to lose if it was not used.*

*Alisa explained that they had applied for funding however there wasn't enough money to give them in that first round. She shared that they do not currently have funding for Morgan Hill but there will be funding available in the 2018 school year. She commented that this would be a good time to start the ground work by collecting the necessary data to apply for future funding. She encouraged the City and School District to work as a group to move forward by adopting a joint resolution supporting Safe Routes to Schools. The funding that would be applied for would be to provide traffic safety education to the students in class.*

### a) Status Update on Joint Corp Yard Space Study

*Karl spoke regarding the space study for a future Corp Yard location. He shared that they have talked about having a space needs study performed to learn what the needs of the City and the District will be in the future. They have drafted an RFP that the City is preparing and will send it out in the near future. The City has also put money in the budget for the next fiscal year in order to move forward. They are estimating that the cost will be around \$150,000, with a shared cost between the City and District.*

*Steve Rymer shared that the City would prefer to continue in a partnership with the District. He feels that the two organizations should set the vision to move forward.*

c) Public school parcels within MH 2035 General Plan

*Andrew shared that the City's General Plan update is approaching its conclusion. Andrew and Kirsten have identified a few potential school sites.*

*Kirsten shared that the District's main concern is finding sites within the city and working with developers to ensure that sites are set aside for schools. They are looking at 10 to 40 acres for a potential high school which is hard to find within the city limits which has pushed them to look outside the city limits.*

*Steve Betando commented that it would be interesting to see where since the last school was built, where the residential infill has taken place. It hasn't been with the design of where a school should go to meet the needs of the community. The development approval process as it is setup, does not allow for the District to plan in advance.*

*Kirsten Perez shared that the district is really looking to build schools within the city, they wanted to make sure that the Council understands that need. She explained that even if there was not more growth within the City, the district would still need room for schools as they lower class sizes.*

*Rich Constantine clarified that he as a Council Member understands that the district needs schools, there was confusion about where the district was looking to build schools.*

*Steve Betando explained that the District had identified 12 sites within the city for potential schools and they were told that all but three did not fit within the plan. He clarified that the District is not designing magnet schools rather they are designing neighborhood schools with an academy concept. The success of the academy schools has brought about requests for students to attend these schools from outside the district. Due to the pockets of students in locations that didn't have room for schools they have 39 bus routes which is not something that the District wants. The District has formed a boundary committee that will be looking at school boundaries especially with the new school coming in, which is a challenge.*

*Andrew Crabtree identified on a map the sites that he and Kirsten have identified as potential school sites, around Live Oak High School, on the edge of the Southeast Quadrant, Monterey Road near Watsonville Road, around Peet Road and Cochrane Road, the Monterey corridor between Cochrane Road and Main Avenue, and DeWitt between Edmundson Avenue and Dunne Avenue.*

*Steve Betando shared that one challenge the District faces is finding parcels with enough acreage. The state identifies the need of 10 acres for an elementary school, 20 acres for a middle school and 40 acres for a high school. In particular when they look at the secondary schools they have to look at not putting one school next to another school. In the future they will need a middle school and high school in the south end of town.*

d) Public school parcels within MH 2035 General Plan

*Steve Betando stated that the District is hoping that with the money that the City has set aside for the development of the site, that the City could help the District with the development of the green areas for joint use. They have asked their architect to design the project so that the school could be closed after hours but allow for the green areas to be used by the community*

*Steve Rymer explained that the City's commitment was first the District would obtain the 10 acres and if there was remainder that the City would purchase it under the condition that a master plan was put into place and second was that if the later was not possible that the City would look at potentially look at a park in that location. He expressed that the City's number one goal and commitment is to work with the District, ultimately if the City can use some funds earlier to get the community space completed before the school that is still the City's objective. One issue with that location is the access to the site. The funding for the community space is programmed into the CIP for the next couple of years but the City and District need to come to resolution on the plan to move forward other the money will sit there and potentially get used for other projects.*

**Updates:**

*Dave Swing shared that the Police Department is working on the Public Safety Master Plan. Part of that plan does include the interaction with the schools.*

*Steve Betando commented that he is so impressed with the Police Department's work with the schools and individual issues.*

*Kimberly Beare spoke regarding their Super Health 123 program. She shared that the District has partnered with Specialized to find ways to encourage students to be more active. Their focus is aimed at the connection between physical activity and cognitive ability. They have created a health tracking website so that people can track their activity levels. Their goal is to motivate people to get active and moving. Specialized has given the school district a platform on Sunday at the Spring Classic to launch their health initiative. It has been designed in such a way that it is scalable so that it can be taken to other communities.*

*Alisa Arce shared that they are partnering with Police Department to provide helmet fitting at the event and they are also having a booth to help kids "rethink your drink"*

**2. Topics for Upcoming Meetings**

*Approve the December 18, 2015 City/School Liaison Committee Meeting minutes*

*The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.*

**Future Meetings:** (all meetings start at 8:30 a.m.)

Thursday, June 16, 2016