



Dear Friends,

Thank you for supporting PARKS and OPEN SPACES! **Let's hear from YOU!**

The City parkland deficit is now 77-acres and high-density housing is still proposed on property that could be parkland. High-density housing overdevelopment has created park deficits and financial burdens. Union City has the one of the highest sales tax rates – 10% in the State and is not keeping up with parks and other improvements. We need a SMART GROWTH CITY where we live, work, shop and play in town with a focus on Parks First!

Please ask the City and Council to take 10 steps:

1. Rezone from high-density housing to agricultural uses SAVING the Ramirez farm, Old Alameda Creek, historic house and horse ranch as a future park. This rezoning allows us to buy the land at much lower price with no City maintenance costs.
2. Rezone old warehousing sites and create opportunity for single family homes to include affordable studio units to meet new housing needs and leave the vacant potential parklands alone. We are almost at build-out so Vacant land will be lost forever without your help.
3. Change the municipal code from a minimum standard of 3 parkland acres per 1,000 new residents to 5 acres per 1,000 residents. Change will increase City parks, so more people can de-stress, recreate, kick a ball, and enjoy nature within walking distance from our homes!
4. Negotiate a Masonic Homes development agreement to dedicate minimum 30 flatland acres with trail connections as part of their 15-year development plan. The previous 10-year Acacia Creek Project development agreement provided No parkland dedication. Let's create the flatlands as a place for farm to school and u-pick farms to teach our children, feed the poor and give community access to parklands. The Masonic Home is a non-profit, does not pay their fair share of taxes to support city services.
5. Create trails, not roads for vehicles. Increase the City's meager tax dollar investment by using a portion of our 10% sales tax towards new park/trail infrastructure, build trails to parks, schools and job centers.
6. Do not create warehousing projects and associated low wage jobs– a fiscal loser. Large trucks damage our roadways and warehousing takes up too much precious, valuable space.
7. Do not create unaffordable high-density housing- a fiscal loser requiring more city services including public safety and city services than they produce in revenues with direct associated tax increases.

8. Create local, small and medium businesses in town to increase jobs, wages and shopping. This will eventually increase revenue and reduce reliance on a 10% sales tax; one of the highest in the state. Lowering this tax will make our City more competitive with neighboring cities!

9. Develop our City where we live, work, shop and play in town. Status Quo – the City's 2040 General Plan Update – a 20 year plan for development – includes outdated ideas and does not work. Change the 2040 Plan with a focus on PARKS, OPEN SPACE and TRAILS first!

10. Smart Planning starts with us! We, 65% of Union City voters in 2014 and 1996, Saved Open Space, Agricultural lands and Views of our Hills creating an urban growth boundary. Create an urban boundary of parks, open space and trail connections around our city with trail networks to parks in our neighborhoods. This will reduce cars on our Roads.

Let's fix the City's 77-acre parkland deficit NOW before all potential parklands are GONE, focus smart development and give us 20 years of park growth we are proud of!

Let's stay on course to improve our beautiful City and quality of life with SMART Planning. Please tell your friends, family, neighbors and support groups!

Save Our Hills

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