

Council unanimously approves 'PROS' initiative

■ **JESSE CHAVEZ**
Reporter

The Sunnyside City Council meeting on Monday, Feb. 14 reviewed a plan on the Parks, Recreation & Open Space (PROS) initiative with a passing resolution of 7-0 by city council members.

According to a document submitted by Jamison Horner, the Interim Finance

and Administrative Services Director for Sunnyside, this plan would "...provide a framework that will allow the city to respond to new opportunities as they arise, and to ensure that parks, facilities, and recreation programs meet the needs of Sunnyside's residents, employees and visitors now and into the future."

For the next six years, Sunnyside plans to boost

community engagement with large open spaces for better collaboration within Sunnyside and surrounding areas bringing in safer biking, jogging, and walking trails.

This attracts local attention but also regional attention for those who come to Sunnyside to enjoy the new improvements, considering their plan is to provide "... high quality, community-driven parks, trails, open

spaces, and recreational opportunities," as reported by the document submitted by Horner.

City Council is eager to act upon this plan to improve parks and recreation, "I am very happy to see this, I want to see this move forward and I applaud the work that has been done," Mayor Broersma said.

Not only is there a want see **'PROS' INITIATIVE**, page A2



Jesse Chavez/Sunnyside Sun

The need for safety will be implemented within the Parks, Recreation & Open Space (PROS) initiative, with improvements being done to all already existing parks including Upland Park pictured above.



Ileana Martinez/Sunnyside Sun

Local business owner Brittany Byma, center, voices parking concerns in the Sixth Street improvements plans during the public information meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 16.

Sixth Street project set to begin May 2022

The City of Sunnyside held a public information meeting Wednesday, Feb. 16 on the proposed upgrades to Sixth Street between Decatur and North Avenues. The meeting began at 6 p.m. at the Sunnyside Fire Station on Eighth Street.

Area business owners including David Swails of Valley Auto Parts, and Gary Johnson of Johnson Foods attended the meeting to voice their concerns with proposed changes. Brittany Byma, owner of Complete Wellness, also attended the

meeting voicing parking concerns in the area.

The city received federal and other funding that will cover more than \$3.3 million for the roughly \$4 million project.

According to Public Works Director Shane Fisher, construction is set to begin in May this year with expected completion in seven months with improvements to the road area including a full rebuild with repaving, new sidewalks, and upgrades to several parking areas.

BENITEZ VICTORY AT MAT CLASSIC



Andrew Hamill/Sunnyside Sun

Grandview High School's Evan Benitez (126 lbs, in black) placed second at Mat Classic XXXIII in the 2A division on Saturday, Feb. 19. See more Mat Classic coverage on Page B1.

Community creates superintendent job brochure

■ **JOB WISE**
General Manager

Consultants Bill Jordan and Sergio Hernandez from Northwest Leadership Associates led the discussion about the findings from the recent school and community forums during the Sunnyside School Board Work Session, Wednesday Feb. 16.

"The comments made in both community focus groups were very similar," said Jordan.

Community member

comments focused on the need for diversity, fairness, being unified and good communication.

"Our focus during tonight's board meeting was the creation of an online brochure describing the open superintendent position," Sunnyside School Board President Sandra Linde said.

The comments from the all the group meetings and online survey were summarized by Jordan and Hernandez and are a part of the new superintendent job

posting brochure.

This brochure lists professional and personal qualifications that are expected of a superintendent candidate. It also lists some of the school key points that community wants to develop in the district.

The superintendent position is now open. Potential applicants are encouraged to apply before March 31 to receive full consideration.

Along with their resume they are expected to have

at least four letters of recommendation. As well as a written statement explaining how they plan to address the challenges and opportunities noted in the brochure.

The next Sunnyside School Board regular meeting will be Thursday, Feb. 24 at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting has moved to the Sunnyside High School Media Center to help with the audio difficulties for the online viewers.

■ **Job Wise** can be reached at 509-837-4500 ext 116.



Job Wise/Sunnyside Sun

Consultant Sergio Hernandez from Northwest Leadership Associates leads the Spanish-language discussion during the Sunnyside School Board Work Session, Wednesday Feb. 16.

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