

Possible Park Maintenance Service Reductions to Achieve Budget Reductions

The following options are intended to help initiate the Commission's discussion related park maintenance services and budget reductions. The options are not in any order of priority and are not comprehensive. If selected for further consideration, actual savings associated with the options will be determined.

1. Reduce/Eliminate park amenities that require regular service, maintenance and repair such as barbeques, benches, trash cans, and picnic tables.
2. Remove and eliminate replacement of broken playground equipment. Remove and eliminate replacement of playgrounds that no longer meet safety standards.
3. Close restrooms in parks with ball fields and/or in parks that have two restrooms. Four restrooms were selected for closure in FY 10, including Cabrillo Ball field, Pershing Park, Shoreline Park and Oak Park (Pershing Park and Cabrillo Ball Field can be open for ball games and service through fees.) These closures could be continued and expanded in FY11.
4. Transfer street median and island maintenance service to Forestry and to be funded by UUT. This option was recently implemented with the additional FY10 budget reductions and could be continued in FY11.
5. Further reduce maintenance service levels across all parks and facilities. Provide lowest level of service to facilities that do not serve a recreation purpose.
6. Close parks and facilities that can be feasibly fenced. This option would not provide complete savings as closed parks would need to be monitored for homeless encampments and dumping as well as require periodic maintenance.
7. Limit beach maintenance services to summer season. Mechanized beach maintenance would be limited to the late spring and summer months when the beaches are in greatest use.
8. Expand park volunteer program in neighborhood and community parks for basic park maintenance services. This option assumes that volunteers would undertake regular park maintenance duties and would also require the redirection or additional staff costs for development and implementation.
9. Lease underutilized park areas to neighborhood associations or community organizations.
10. Develop opportunities for park concessions to generate new revenue.