



## CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** May 24, 2017

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Commission

**FROM:** Administration Division, Parks and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT:** Director's Report

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Commission receive a presentation on the status of the various Parks and Recreation Department initiatives and activities.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

##### Department Annual Breakfast and Awards

On April 27, 2017, the Department held its Annual Employee Breakfast and Awards Event at the Cabrillo Pavilion. Each year, Department staff nominate their colleagues to receive a Peer Award in the following four categories: Outstanding Hourly, Teamwork, Unsung Hero, and Superior Service. The Director, based on nominations by Division Managers, also awards one employee for Outstanding Service and a staff team for Team Performance. This year, two hourly employees, Daisy Hernandez, Office Specialist, and Matt Clarke, Pool Lifeguard, received the Awesome Hourly award. Amber Workman, Pool Manager, received the Teamwork award, Summers Case, Marketing Coordinator, received the Unsung Hero award, and George Jimenez, Small Tree Care Specialist, received the Superior Service award. Justin Van Mullem, Associate Planner, received the Outstanding Service Award. The Park Ranger Team, including John Velasco, Ernie Rodriguez and Adam Hogsdon, received the Team Performance award.

##### 2514 Castillo Street Tree Appeal

On May 2, 2017, the City Council considered the appeal filed by Blanca Benedict, and upheld the Parks and Recreation Commission decision to deny the removal of one *Eucalyptus nicholii*, (Nichol's Willow Leafed Peppermint Tree) located in the parkway at 2514 Castillo Street. Commission Chair Beebe Longstreet and Street Tree Advisory Committee Chair Maury Treman attended the hearing to speak on behalf of the Commission action and Committee recommendation to deny the tree removal.

### Smoking Ordinance Update

On May 9, 2017, the City Council recommended that staff proceed with updates to the Smoking Ordinance to prohibit smoking on Stearns Wharf, beaches, parks, sports fields, trails, community centers, outdoor recreation facilities, outdoor library areas, public parking structures and lots, designated areas of the golf course, and outdoor restaurant patios before 10 p.m. The areas of the golf course that are designated smoke free including the Club house (including the Pro Shop and Mulligan's), practice area, driving range, and parking lot. Staff recommended that the golf course be exempt since it is a large, programmed and monitored space where typically groups of no more than four people are playing any one hole at a time and are often hundreds of yards from any other group of golfers as they progress through the course. This limited proximity to others and the nature of the open space limit the effect on non-smokers.

The next steps include developing ordinance language recommendations which would be reviewed by the Ordinance Committee and adopted by the City Council. The Department is currently finalizing its new park signage and will include both symbols and language that indicates park and recreation areas that are smoke free. Additional outreach efforts will be pursued to inform residents and visitors of the new rules.

### Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – New Mural at Santa Barbara Junior High

The Commission is invited to attend the ribbon cutting celebration for the Santa Barbara Arts Alliance newest mural. The ceremony will take place on Thursday, June 22, 2017 at 10 am at Santa Barbara Junior High School. The mural, titled "Earth Mother", was inspired by a Chumash story of creation and is located in one of the hallways between the quad and the Marjorie Luke Theatre. Three youth from the Santa Barbara Junior High and five youth who are part of the Santa Barbara Arts Alliance program, under the artistic direction of Miguel Rodriguez-Lead Artist/Muralist, have been transforming blank walls at the junior high into a larger than life homage and celebration of Santa Barbara's Chumash roots, and the collective concern for the preservation of mother earth, our oceans, and the environment.

**PREPARED BY:** Jill E. Zachary, Parks and Recreation Director