



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: July 25, 2018
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 (Department) initiatives and activities.

DISCUSSION:

Arroyo Burro Open Space Restoration Update

The Arroyo Burro Open Space Restoration Project will improve creek water quality and habitat conditions along 1,400 linear feet of Arroyo Burro through the restoration of floodplain habitat, removal of non-native vegetation, and stabilization of eroding creek banks. Portions of the creeks banks will be re-graded to create floodplain habitat and reduce stream bank erosion. Over 7,500 locally sourced native container plants, including 550 trees, will be installed onsite to re-vegetate disturbed areas and to improve native habitat diversity through this portion of the Arroyo Burro Watershed. The total project cost of \$1.9 million will be funded through Measure B, and through \$1.1 million in grant funding awarded to the project by the California Coastal Conservancy and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Construction is scheduled to begin the last week of July 30. Fencing and pre-construction work by the California Conservation Corps began last week. Staff expects the civil construction portion of the project to be complete in the middle of October, and the landscape installation is expected to be complete near the end of November.

The Creeks Division held a neighborhood meeting on July 17 to provide information about the construction schedule and short term impacts to the neighborhood.

Ortega Park and Dwight Murphy Field Community Meetings

The second Community Workshops were held for the Dwight Murphy Field and Ortega Park Master Plan projects. The Dwight Murphy workshop took place on July 10 from 6:30-8:00 pm at the Discovery Pavilion at the Santa Barbara Zoo, and the Ortega Park

workshop took place on July 12 from 6:30-8:00 pm at the Globe Theater at Santa Barbara Junior High.

The second workshops included the presentation of two conceptual plans for each park project based on public input from the first community meetings, and provided the opportunity for additional feedback on the design elements and park amenities depicted in each plan. Both workshops were well attended. Forty-three stakeholders, park users, and neighboring residents attended the Dwight Murphy Field meeting, and 106 attended the Ortega Park meeting.

Information gathered from the second workshops will assist RRM Design Group to further refine the concept plan and amenities for each park for presentation at the joint Parks and Recreation Commission and Neighborhood Advisory Council meeting on August 22, 2018.

Children's Fiesta Parade

Celebrating its 88th year, the Children's Fiesta Parade will be held on Saturday, August 4, 2018. A favorite event during the week-long Old Spanish Days Fiesta Celebration, the parade is organized by the Parks and Recreation Department and serves more than 2,500 children and their families. Each year, more than 40,000 spectators line State Street to view the parade.

Families entering for the first time are joined by families that may be 10th or more generation parade participants. The size of each entry varies. An entry may be one family of three, a family of siblings and all the cousins, an entire neighborhood, or special clubs and groups. At the parade's conclusion, all participants receive free ice cream courtesy of MarBorg Industries.

The public is invited to view this delightful parade starting at 10:00 am. The parade proceeds down State Street, from Victoria to Ortega Streets.

Santa Barbara Golf Club Driving Range

Renovation of the driving range and practice facility at Santa Barbara Golf Club (Golf Club) began on July 9. The Golf Club driving range and practice facility provides golfers of all ages and abilities the opportunity to hit golf balls prior to playing the course, practice swing techniques, or receive individual or group instruction from golf professionals.

The renovation will increase the teaching area, rebuild and enhance the practice bunker and adjacent green, and provide new turf hitting areas for range customers in front of the existing mat area. Golf staff anticipate hitting from turf will be a significant improvement for many golfers, as it exactly replicates the experience on the actual golf course. Fees

for the driving range will remain unchanged following this enhancement, providing even more value to local and visiting golfers.

The project will take approximately three weeks to complete and requires the range to be closed intermittently during construction to provide a safe working environment for the construction crews.

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