



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT**

**AGENDA DATE:** February 27, 2019  
**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:**

Parks Division Storm Response

The Parks Division has a storm response plan to effectively respond to emergencies as they surface. Consistent with the plan, staff prepared for the recent storm events with continual monitoring of storm drains and the deployment of sandbags and wattles to sites that historically have flooding and erosion issues. As the multiple storm surges started to move through our area, the Parks Division began receiving service calls Friday February 1, mainly pertaining to tree issues, which continued through the weekend. The stand-by Forestry crew, together with other Parks staff, responded to the service calls and worked through the weekend mitigating hazards and prioritizing work. By February 5, the Parks Division had received 56 calls from private citizens and Emergency Services for storm related tree issues, ranging from whole tree and branch failures to palm frond litter. From the total calls received, 42 calls were acted upon in some way, and for the remaining calls, staff was either unable to locate the issue or they involved private trees. As a result, 24 trees were lost and removed; 14 were City street trees, 9 were park / open space trees, and 2 were privately owned trees. In addition to the tree removals, the Parks Division also handled 20 branch / tree part failures, all of which were City trees.

Overall there was little damage to City owned property; however, 3 of the fallen trees caused significant damage to private property. After the storm, Parks staff assisted Forestry with cleanup efforts, which continued through the following week of February 4 – 8. By Friday, February 8, the Parks Division had logged approximately 432 hours attributed to the storm response efforts, and aside from the green waste from the storm-generated tree work, staff estimated that the Parks Division picked up approximately 148 cubic yards of palm fronds and tree litter. With super saturated soil conditions and high

wind events, it is anticipated that there could be further tree losses. The system in place for the storm response proved successful, as all City departments worked together to handle storm related emergencies as they surfaced.

### Summer Camp Registration

The summer camp registration season is fast approaching! Registration for 2019 summer camps begins March 1, with this year's camp lineup available to view online at [sbparksandrec.org](http://sbparksandrec.org) starting February 15. Social media posts and ads announcing the summer camp registration start date began in January, with email campaigns to remind the public beginning February 15. A mailer listing all summer camps and youth activities for spring and summer will reach the public the week of March 1, with hard copies available in Department facilities and a digital version available online at [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/ParksAndRec](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/ParksAndRec). Social media posts and email campaigns will continue through the spring and summer months.

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