

CHAIR ROBERT GONZALES
VICE CHAIR PATTY LOPEZ
COMMISSIONER ERICA FRIEND
COMMISSIONER NATASHA SANCHEZ-BROOKS
COMMISSIONER VACANT

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO

Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Agenda Summary Thursday, October 12, 2023 – 6:30 PM

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
117 MACNEIL STREET
SAN FERNANDO, CALIFORNIA 91340

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPTIONS

WATCH THE MEETING:

Live stream with audio and video, via YouTube Live, at:

https://www.youtube.com/c/CityOfSanFernando

Note: Comments submitted via YouTube will not be read into the record.

SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENT IN PERSON:

Members of the public may provide comments in person in the City Council Chambers during the Public Comments section of the Agenda by submitting a comment card to the Board Secretary.

SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENT VIA EMAIL:

Members of the public may submit comments by email to LMoreno@sfcity.org no later than 4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting, to ensure distribution to the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission prior to consideration of the agenda. Comments received via email will be distributed to the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission, read into the record, limited to three minutes, and made part of the official public record of the meeting.

CALL-IN TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT LIVE AT THE MEETING:

Members of the Public may call-in between 6:30 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. Comments will be heard in the order received, and limited to three minutes. If necessary, the call-in period may be extended by the Chair. This is audio only and no video.

Call-in Telephone Number: (669) 900-6833 Meeting ID: 986 1620 1615 Passcode: 988843

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CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

TELECONFERENCE REQUESTS/DISCLOSURE

Recommend consideration of requests received for remote teleconference meeting participation made by members of the City's legislative bodies, as permitted under the provisions of Assembly Bill (AB) 2449, Government Code Section 54953, and the City of San Fernando adopted Resolution No. 8215, effective March 1, 2023.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Chair

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Recommend that the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission approve the agenda as presented.

PRESENTATIONS

DECORUM AND ORDER

City Commissioners are appointed by City Council and must be free to discuss issues confronting the city in an orderly environment. Members of the public attending City Commission meetings shall observe the same rules of order and decorum applicable to the City Council (SF Procedural Manual). Any person making impertinent derogatory or slanderous remarks or who becomes boisterous while addressing a City Commission or while attending a City Commission meeting, may be removed from the room if the Presiding Officer so directs the Sergeant-At-Arms and such person may be barred from further audience before the City Commission.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL

Members of the public may **provide comments in person in the City Council Chambers** during the Public Comments section of the Agenda by submitting a comment card to the Board Secretary.



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Members of the public may submit comments by email to <u>LMoreno@sfcity.org</u> no later than 4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting, to ensure distribution to the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission and read into the record,

Members of the public may provide a live public comment by calling in between 6:30 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. CALL- IN INFORMATION: Telephone Number: (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID: 986 1620 1615, Passcode: 988843

CULTURAL ARTS LIAISONS REPORT

CONSENT CALENDAR

Items on the Consent Calendar are considered routine and may be disposed of by a single motion to adopt staff recommendation. If the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission wishes to discuss any item, it should first be removed from the Consent Calendar.

- 1) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE PARKS, WELLNESS, AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES FOR:
 - a. August 10, 2023- Regular Meeting

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

2) DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PIONEER PARK PLAYGROUND RENOVATION PROJECT

Recommend that the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission:

- a. Discuss improvements for the Pioneer Park Playground Renovation Project;
- b. Take feedback from the community regarding the project; and
- c. Provide staff direction as appropriate.

3) CESAR E. CHAVEZ MEMORIAL

Recommend that the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission:

a. Discuss Ad Hoc Committee Updates; and



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b. Provide staff direction as appropriate.

4) DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES UPDATE

Recommend that the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission:

- a. Receive and file a report updating the programs, services activities, and business conducted by the Recreation and Community Services Department; and
- b. Provide staff direction as appropriate.

STAFF COMMUNICATION

COMMISSIONER UPDATES/REQUESTS TO AGENDIZE ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AT A FUTURE MEETING

Commissioner(s) may request to agendize an item for discussion at a future meeting, subject to approval by the Commission. Requests should align with the commission's scope of responsibility, adhere to City Council policies, and consider the availability of staff resources and budget constraints.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting will adjourn to its next regular meeting.

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing agenda was posted on the City Hall bulletin board not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Dated:	at:	
Signed By:		





CITY OF SAN FERNANDO PARKS, WELLNESS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 10, 2023 ZOOM MEETING STREAMED ON YOUTUBE

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE PARKS, WELLNESS AND RECREATION COMMISSION. VIDEO AND AUDIO OF THE ACTUAL MEETING ARE AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING AT: https://www.youtube.com/c/CityOfSanFernando

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Commissioner Robert Gonzales called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Administrative Assistant, Linda Bowden-Moreno, called the roll call.

The following persons were recorded as present:

PRESENT:

Commissioners Robert Gonzales, Patty Lopez, Natasha Sanchez-Brooks and Erica Friend

ABSENT:

None

ALSO PRESENT:

Recreation Supervisor, Maribel Perez, Administrative Assistant Linda Bowden-Moreno, and Office Clerk Soledad Chavez

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair R. Gonzales led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Lopez motioned to approve the agenda for the August 10, 2023 Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission Special Meeting. Commissioner Sanchez-Brooks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote:

AYES: R. Gonzales, E. Friend, P. Lopez and N. Sanchez-Brooks

NOES: ABSENT: ABSTAIN:

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PRESENTATIONS

None

PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL

Pastor Isabel Pleites of Sylmar Foursquare Church, shared a prayer, in Spanish and English, for the City and the Commission.

Ricardo Benitez, Sylmar resident, commented on observing an empty lot on Harding with overgrown weeds which may be a fire hazard.

CULTURAL ARTS LIAISONS REPORT

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

Vice Chair Patty Lopez motioned to approve the Consent Calendar approving the Minutes of the July 20, 2023 Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission Special Meeting. Commissioner Friend seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote:

AYES: R. Gonzales, E. Friend, P. Lopez, and N. Sanchez-Brooks

NOES: ABSENT: ABSTAIN:

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. PARK MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Recreation Supervisor, Maribel Perez, provided an update to Commission on the Park Master Plan, including the land inventory study. City Council's has approved the contract with Kounkuey Design Initiative, Inc. to conduct a land and open space inventory to update the Park and Recreation Master Plan. Community engagement meetings will be planned to invite community feedback. It is recommend that the Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission receive and file this report on the Park Master Plan, including the land inventory study.



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Commissioner Sanchez-Brooks had questions regarding the timeline of updating the Park Master Plan.

Commissioner Friend looks forward to the outcome of the land inventory study.

2. DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES UPDATE

Maribel Perez provided an update on the activities, programs, and workshops going on at the parks. The UCLA UniCamp program served 28 participants ages 10-17. Participants enjoyed a week of camping at River Glen Campground in July. Summer Day Camp is concluding for the summer. Camp including swimming and a few field trips. The Movies at Parks series consisted of 3 separate movie events including free treats courtesy of Hamer Toyota. The concert series is now set go forward offering various bands at the parks and in Downtown San Fernando. Youth Basketball is coming to end. Mission City Baseball Fall Ball will running September through November. Adult Basketball begins in September and Open Volleyball is ongoing. Also, an update was provided on upcoming workshops for seniors on the topic of scams and fraud, and the San Fernando Pool is offering free swimming programming for seniors. Staff informed the commission that Layne Park Re-opening has been postponed. The Commission was invited to attend the City's 112th Birthday Celebration scheduled on 8/31/23 at the Lopez Adobe, and also to the Employee Appreciation Day on 8/26/23 at Las Palmas Park. And finally the Valley Community Street Festival, *Move Your Way*, is planned to occur on 9/23/23.

3. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Lopez motioned to add an item to discuss the planning of a park clean up at 8th Street Park. Chair Robert Gonzales seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

AYES: R. Gonzales, P. Lopez, E. Friend, N. Sanchez-Brooks

NOES: ABSENT: ABSTAIN:

STAFF COMMUNICATION



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GENERAL COMMISSION COMMENTS

Chair Gonzales inquired about the date of this year's National Night Out. (Staff confirmed the event will be held on October 3, 2023)

ADJOURNMENT

The Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.





AGENDA REPORT

To: Chair Robert Gonzales and Commissioners

From: Julian J. Venegas, Director of Recreation and Community Services

By: Maribel Perez, RCS Supervisor

Date: October 12, 2023

Subject: Discussion Regarding the Pioneer Park Playground Renovation Project

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission:

a. Discuss improvements for the Pioneer Park Playground Renovation Project;

b. Take feedback from the community regarding the project; and

c. Provide staff direction as appropriate.

BACKGROUND:

- 1. Since 1992, the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD) has awarded grant funds for more than 1,500 projects for parks, recreational, cultural, and community facilities, as well as beaches and open space lands throughout the county. Funding for such projects was generated through the 1996 Proposition A, which expired in 2019.
- 2. On November 8, 2016, the electorate approved the Los Angeles County Safe, Clean Neighborhood Park, Open Space, Beaches, River Protection, and Water Conservation Measure (Measure A). The passage of Measure A ensured that parks, open spaces, beaches, and waterways were built and protected for future generations. Measure A does not sunset.
- 3. On February 5, 2018, the City Council adopted the Parks and Recreation Master Plan (PMP) as a strategic tool to cultivate a comprehensive vision for enhancing park facilities and recreational programming. The PMP identified multiple park sites that needed improvements in order to maintain the continuity of services in the community.
- 4. On September 15, 2020, the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission (PWRC) reviewed potential renovation projects, provided feedback, and prioritized three capital projects that

grant funds could help renovate. The projects included renovations of the Pioneer Park Playground (ranked #1), the walking path lighting at Las Palmas Park (ranked #2), and the community building roof at Recreation Park (ranked #3).

- 5. On October 19, 2020, the City Council concurred with the recommendations made by the PWRC to renovate the playground at Pioneer Park and authorized staff to submit a grant application to the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation for the Per Capita Grant Program. Based on the Per Capita Grant Program and the Urbanized City allocation rate, the City was eligible for \$192,905 in Per Capita funds.
- 6. On August 17, 2021, the City and State executed an agreement for the Per Capita funds. Soon after, staff began developing a scope of work for the renovation of the playground at Pioneer Park. The initial scope of the project determined the Per Capita funds were insufficient to complete the renovations. Staff began to seek additional funding resources.
- 7. On November 15, 2021, the City Council authorized staff to submit a grant application to the Los Angeles County RPOSD for Measure A funding. A grant application for \$180,000 was submitted to the Measure A Community-Based Park Investment grant fund.
- 8. On June 21, 2022, the City Council authorized staff to circulate a Notice Inviting Bids for the design and installation of the Pioneer Park playground.
- 9. On July 7, 2022, a Notice Inviting Bids for the Pioneer Park Playground Renovation Project was released with a due date of August 4, 2022. Two proposals were received, both of which were deemed incomplete.
- 10. On January 18, 2023, a second Notice Inviting Bids for the Pioneer Park Playground Renovation Project was released with a due date of February 15, 2023. No proposals were received prompting staff to reach out to individual playground companies requesting proposals for the Pioneer Park project. The submitted proposals did not meet all of the project's criteria, hence staff rejected the proposals.
- 11. On or about June 9, 2023, staff began consulting with OMNIA Partners, a cooperative purchasing organization, to discuss utilizing their program to contract a vendor for the Pioneer Park project.
- 12. On September 18, 2023, the City Council awarded a Contract Service Agreement to Great Western Recreation to design and install the playground and outdoor equipment for the Pioneer Park project.

13. On September 30, 2023, RCS staff hosted the first of three community meetings at Pioneer Park to gather input from residents to ensure the design and the equipment selected aligned with the desires of the community.

ANALYSIS:

The Pioneer Park Renovation Project aims to enhance the safety, accessibility, and overall quality of the playground for the community's enjoyment, particularly for children and their families. The proposed renovations replace outdated and potentially hazardous equipment with modern, compliant structures that incorporate shading and are ADA accessible. A new feature added to the playground will be outdoor fitness equipment allowing parents to exercise while watching over their children as they play. The new playground's proposed design places a strong emphasis on inclusivity and accessibility and it includes features that cater to children with diverse abilities, ensuring that every child can enjoy the space fully. Renderings of the proposed play equipment and exercise areas are included in the Great Western proposal (Attachment "A").

Great Western Recreation's conceptual design (Attachment "A") illustrates the playground amenities noted in the grant applications, and through a community engagement effort, the RCS Department is soliciting additional feedback to identify cost-neutral design changes. An example of how the community will influence the design is as follows: the proposal lists shading that is incorporated into the play structure. The community recommends having a shade structure built instead. If the change is cost-neutral, Great Western Recreation will make the change to the design. In addition, residents will play an integral part in determining the color palette and interactive panels for the equipment, ensuring a design that truly resonates with the community's preferences.

Community Engagement Framework

To ensure that the Pioneer Park Playground Renovation Project aligns with the needs of the community, staff conducted the first of three community meetings at Pioneer Park on Saturday, September 30, 2023, at 10:00 am. Pacoima Beautiful has been contacting residents informing them of the engagement meetings and the importance of their involvement. The suggestions made for the playground included the following:

- Include an infant seat on the swing set
- Add climbing walls on both age-appropriate play structures
- Shade structure over the entire playground area, not just the individual apparatus
- Alternative flooring: Pour In Palace (PNP) vs sand or wood chips
- Design the PNP to Include games, artwork, or road pattern for toy cars:
- Include a Zip-line option on the structures

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The second community meeting will be part of the PWRC meeting on October 12, 2023 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. The PWRC will provide an opportunity for the public to comment on the Pioneer Park Playground Renovation project after the Commission discussion on the Project. The third community meeting will be on October 26, 2023 at Pioneer Park from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. All feedback received, including comments from the PWRC and community-meeting participants, will be compiled and incorporated into the staff report presented to the City Council. Furthermore, participants from the community meetings will be invited to provide comments at the City Council meeting when the design is presented for consideration of approval.

Assuming there are no significant delays, the installation of play and exercise equipment is expected to occur around December 4, 2023, followed by the installation of the safety surfacing. The anticipated completion of the Pioneer Park Playground Renovation Project is targeted for mid-January 2024.

BUDGET IMPACT:

The total cost for the Great Western Recreation Contract Services Agreement is \$362,863. The Recreation and Community Services Grant (Fund 010) totaling \$192,905 was appropriated in Fiscal Year 2021-2022 for the Pioneer Park Playground Renovation Project and has since been carried forward into the current fiscal year. Community-Based Park Investment Grant Funds will be used to supplement the project's budget with \$180,000.

SOURCES			
Fund	Account Number	Alloc	ation
State Per Capita Grant	010-3697-0671	\$	192,905
LA County Measure A Grant	010-3697-3643	\$	180,001
Total Sources:		\$	372,906

USES				
Activity	Account Number	Cost		
Per Capita Pre-construction Cost	010-420-0671-4600	\$	10,000	
Plans, Specifications, Cost Estimates, Permits		\$		
Community Engagement				
Construction	010-420-0671-4600	\$	182,905	
Measure A				
Construction	010-423-3643-4600	\$	180,001	
Expenditures-to-Date		\$	0.00	
Total Uses:		\$	372,906	

The Measure A grant does not require a match, whereas the State Per Capita grant (\$192,905) requires a 20% match of \$38,581. The Measure A grant is considered local funds (i.e., Los Angeles County) and qualifies as the City's Per Capita grant match.

Any new playground amenity identified through the community engagement meetings would be an alternative to the proposed playground design, and funding for those alternative playground features would need to be identified by the City Council before they are included in the final design.

CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission discuss the improvements for the Pioneer Park Playground Renovation Project, take comments from the community regarding the project, and provide staff direction as appropriate.

ATTACHMENT:

A. Great Western Recreation Conceptual Design

Proposal for

City of San Fernando

Prepared by



08-02-2023 Job # 109417-01

Pioneer Park Playground Option 2C



















GREAT WESTERN

GREAT WESTERN



GREAT WESTERN

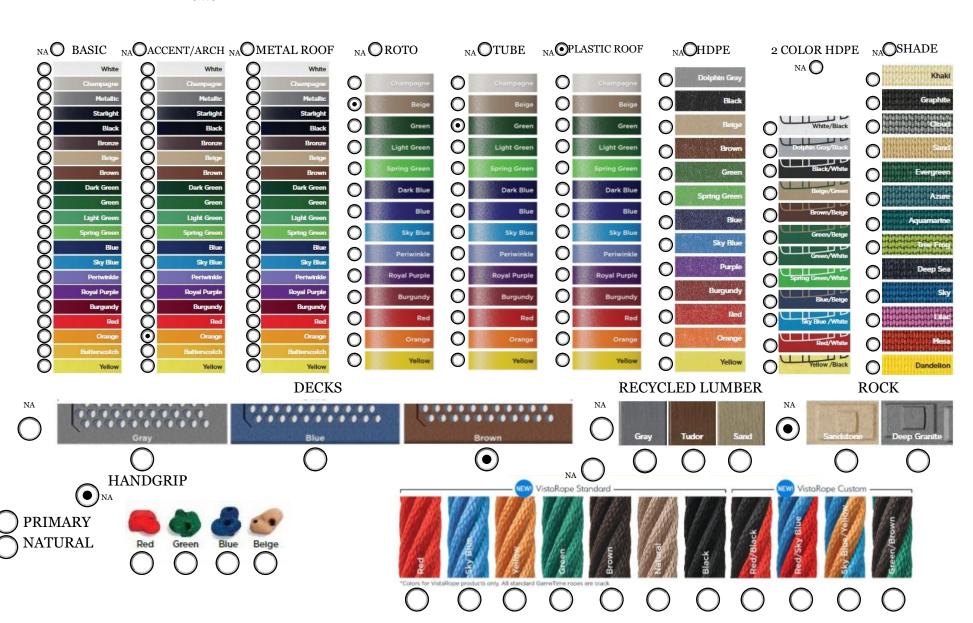
CUSTOM COLOR SELECTIONS Approved by:_

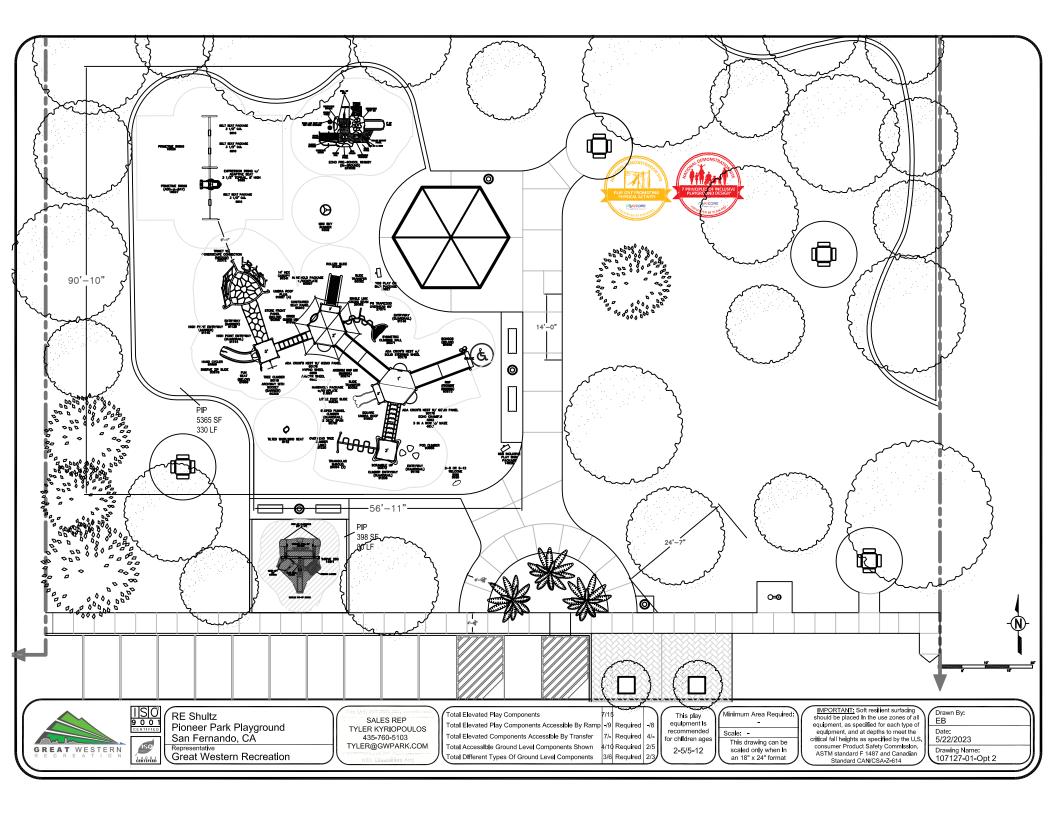
Project: 107127-01-Opt 2 Surfacing: 50-50 PIP

CUSTOM COLORS:

ITEM COLOR ITEM COLOR ITEM COLOR

Basic 2 Orange
Accent 2 Beige
Fabric Latte







AGENDA REPORT

To: Chair Robert Gonzales and Commissioners

From: Julian J. Venegas, Director of Recreation and Community Services

October 12, 2023 Date:

Subject: Discussion Regarding the Cesar E. Chavez Memorial

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission:

a. Discuss the Ad Hoc Committee updates; and

b. Provide staff with direction as appropriate.

BACKGROUND:

- 1. On June 7, 1993, the City Council approved of declaring March 31 an official City holiday honoring the late farmworker and civil rights leader, Cesar E. Chavez, thus becoming the first City in the country to establish the Cesar E. Chavez Holiday.
- 2. In 2004, the City of San Fernando in collaboration with the Cesar Chavez Commemorative Committee, honored the great civil rights and labor leader through the creation of the largest Cesar E. Chavez Memorial in the nation.
- 3. On October 6, 2014, the City Council approved a partnership with Pueblo Y Salud for fundraising efforts to repair and restore the Cesar E. Chavez Memorial.
- 4. On March 14, 2023, Commissioner Lopez requested information regarding the condition and possible beautification of the Cesar E. Chavez Memorial.
- 5. On April 11, 2023, The PWRC directed staff to draft a letter to Pueblo Y Salud that would start a potential collaboration to restore the Cesar E. Chavez Memorial Plaza.
- 6. On May 11, 2023, the PWRC tabled discussion on the item until the Commissioners had an opportunity to review the MOU with Pueblo Y Salud and provide feedback on the draft letter to Pueblo Y Salud.

- 7. On June 8, 2023, an Ad Hoc committee (Commissioners Lopez & Gonzales) was formed to gather information on the Cesar E. Chavez Memorial and how renovations would be funded.
- 8. On August 17, 2023, the Ad Hoc committee and the RCS Director met with Ruben Rodriguez of Pueblo Y Salud.

ANALYSIS:

The Ad Hoc committee met with Ruben Rodriguez, from Publeo Y Salud, to discuss possible renovations for the Cesar E. Chavez Memorial Plaza. The discussion revolved around the history of the Memorial. Mr. Rodriguez noted that Pueblo Y Salud had started investigating renovations to the Memorial back in 2014, but the project stalled and has been dormant since then.

The cost was a big factor in putting the renovation on hold. The restoration project needed to raise the funds to pay for the repairs. A breakdown of those costs in 2014 is highlighted in the table below. It illustrates that back then the renovation cost was \$19,000. Today the cost would be much greater. The Ad Hoc Committee would need to look into today's cost and determine how these funds would be raised.

Breakdown of Restoration Costs

Description of Work	Cost
Mural Restoration	\$9,000 \$2,000 \$11,000
Replacement of Plaques Cost of plaques Labor remove, prepare, and install plaques Total:	\$1,400 \$1,800 \$3,200
Personalized Bricks Cost of bricks Labor to install Total:	\$3,800 \$1,000 \$4,800 \$19,000
TOTAL COSTS	\$19,000 ਜੋ ਜ਼

The Ad Hoc committee also inquired about the maintenance of the Cesar E. Chavez Memorial. Staff reached out to the Public Works Department which is responsible for the care of the Memorial. Per the Public Works Department, the following table highlights the maintenance schedule of the Plaza.

Maintenance schedule Cesar Chavez Memorial

Task	Frequency	Hours	Cost
Cleaning	Daily	1	\$721.50
Mowing & Trimming	Weekly	4	\$1,229.40
Tree Care	Yearly	16	\$19,670.4
Special Projects	As needed	8 - 24	\$2,876 - \$12,876

BUDGET IMPACT:

There is no budget to review and discuss the Ad Hoc meeting. However, any possible beautification or restoration of the Cesar E. Chavez Memorial will incur a cost. Per Sec. 54-67. - Incurring financial liability - Neither the Commission nor any person connected with the Commission shall incur any financial liability in the name of the City.

CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission discuss the meeting with Pueblo Y Salud, and provide staff with direction as appropriate



AGENDA REPORT

To: Chair Robert Gonzales and Commissioners

From: Julian J. Venegas, Director of Recreation and Community Services

By: Maribel Perez, Recreation and Community Services Supervisor Juan Salas, Recreation and Community Services Supervisor

Date: October 12, 2023

Subject: Department Programming, Services, Activity, and Business Updates

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission:

- a. Receive and file a report updating the programs, services, activities, and business conducted by the Recreation and Community Services Department; and
- b. Provide staff guidance or recommendations, as appropriate.

BACKGROUND:

- The mission of the Recreation and Community Services Department (RCS) is to develop and implement enriching community, cultural, and recreational opportunities that foster the overall well-being and personal development of our community.
- 2. The RCS Department conducts a wide array of programs, services, activities, and business throughout the year. Staff provides a monthly update on items discussed at the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission (PWRC) meetings and welcomes any guidance or recommendations regarding the items presented.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

Programs and Services

The RCS Department provides a variety of programming and services for the San Fernando community. All Los Angeles County Department of Public Health protocols and Best Practices guidelines for operating recreational facilities are strictly adhered to. Safety is the top priority for RCS staff when conducting activities for the community. All program participants and park

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT 208 PARK AVENUE, SAN FERNANDO, CA 91340 (818) 898-1290 WWW.SFCITY.ORG

REVIEW:
Finance Department
Deputy City Manager
City Manager

visitors are made aware of safety guidelines being implemented to ensure patrons feel safe while participating in the Department's programs.

Los Angeles Regional Food Bank Distribution

The Los Angeles Regional Food Bank continues to provide free food kits containing nutritious items such as meats, canned fruits and vegetables, cereals, and grains.. The program serves seniors aged 60 and over. The program serves an average of 150 seniors a month, ages 60 and over. The next distribution will be held on Monday, November 6, 2023, at Las Palmas Park. For more information on food assistance programs please contact Las Palmas Park at 818-898-7340.

Pioneer Park Playground Renovation Project

On September 30th, the department hosted the first of three community meetings to inform residents of the playground renovation project at Pioneer Park. The meeting was held adjacent to the existing playground and gave attendees the opportunity to share their thoughts on the design of the new equipment.

The rest of the meetings are scheduled for this month as follows:

October 12, 2023 | 6:30pm | Council Chambers (during PWRC meeting)

October 26, 2023 | 6:00pm | Pioneer House

SENIOR SERVICES

Hispanic Hertitage Month Celebration

On September 15th, the seniors at Las Palmas Park were treated to a special event celebrating Hispanic Heritage month. The celebration kicked off at 12pm with over 100 participants enjoying tamales and aguas frescas while they watched a performance by the Music Center's INCA Peruvian Ensemble and our very own music group, Violeta and her Golden Dreams. The event also included a fashion show in which 11 participants displayed clothing from their native country. The celebration was made possible by Well Care Health Plans.

Crafts for Seniors

During the month of September, staff launched two craft programs for seniors: Tie-Dye Mondays and Coloring. Both activities have been well received, with an average of 20 participants between the two.

Tech Wednesdays

Tech Wednesdays are free one-on-one sessions that teach seniors how to better use their phones and laptops. The month of September saw an increase in participants, mainly due in part to the new aquatic classes offered at the San Fernando Regional Pool, which require online registrations. Interested individuals can call Las Palmas Park for an appointment.

Senior Programs (on-going)

Chair Yoga

Fridays, 9am | Las Palmas Park | Ages 18+

Movement for Life

Thursdays, 8am | Las Palmas Park | Ages 55+

Pickleball

Mondays, 10am | Las Palmas Park | Ages 55+

Zumba for Seniors

Thursdays, 10:30am | Las Palmas Park | Ages 40+

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Teens for a Better Community

During the month of Septmeber, the teens participated in a tie-dye team building activity as a way to socialize and get the participants to know one another. This month, teens will be working on cultural crafts and decorations for the SFV Mile and Dia de los Muertos Festival.

Leisure Programs (on-going)

Folklorico Dance

Wed/Fri, 7pm | Las Palmas Park | Ages 5 +

Aztec Dance

Thursdays, 7pm | Las Palmas Park | All Ages

Senior Music

Tuesdays, 9am | Las Palmas Park | Ages 18+

Clase de Canto

Thursdays, 9am | Las Palmas Park | Ages 18+ (taught in Spanish)

Inclusive Zumba

Mon/Wed, 6pm | Recreation Park | Ages 14+ (minors must be accompanied by an adult)

Total Body Conditioning

Mon-Thur, 7pm | Recreation Park | Ages 18+

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Campana de Libertad

On Saturday, September 16, the RCS Department hosted the dedication of the Campana de La Libertad and El Grito event at the Lopez Adobe between 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm. The event open with a blessing and land acknowledgement by Rudy Ortega Jr. Tribal President of the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians. The festivities featured Mariachi groups, Azteca Danza, bands and the dedication of the Campana de La Libertad by the Mexican Delegation followed by El Grito declaring freedom for the people of Mexico and the United States. The event provided an avenue for cooperation between the two states. The event was well attended and all had a good time.

Move Your Way Open Streets Festival

The RCS Department hosted the Move Your Way Metro Event on Saturday, September 23 along Maclay Ave and San Fernando Road from 10: 00 am to 2:00 pm. An estimated 6,000 Folks from the Northeast San Fernando Valley came out on their bikes, scooters and skateboards to roam the 6.5-mile route traveling along San Fernando Road, Maclay Ave, and Van Nays Blvd. The route connected the communities of Sylmar, Pacoima, and the City of San Fernando. The San Fernando section of the Move Your Way event brought out local businesses, vendors, community organizations, and restaurants that offered goods and services to the participants walking and riding by their booths. The Lopez Adobe hosted tours by period actors, RCS lead crafts and disseminated programming information. The stage on Maclay Ave. featured local acts who performed for the crows.

YOUTH SPORTS

Mission City Baseball Spring Season

Registrations for the Spring season of Mission City Baseball opened at the beginning of the month and will go through the end of February 2024. The Spring season will offer baseball for ages 3-14 and softball for ages 7-14. Families are encouraged to register before December 31st to take advantage of the discounted rate.

Volunteer coaches needed! Coaches receive an additional discount. Interested individuals can call Recreation Park.

Youth Basketball Winter League

The Recreation Division is collaborating with a local travel team, No Limit, to provide basketball clinics that will feed into the winter season. These sessions will also help train the recreation staff on how to lead practices and interact with youth ages of 7-16. Projected start date is scheduled for the end of October and will run through November, leading into league evaluations.

Sports Programs (on-going)

Tennis Classes

Saturdays, 8am-12:30pm | Pioneer Park | Ages 3-17

Karate Classes

Saturdays, 9am | Las Palmas Park | Ages 5-16

ADULT SPORTS

Spooky Season Recreation Week

The Recreation Division will host some free autumn-inspired activities during Spooky Season Recreation Week, October 21-28, 2023. Kicking it off with flashlight-lit tours and a movie at the Adobe, followed by Double-Double Pickle Ball Trouble and Ghouls Night Volley Ball open play and culminating with the annual San Fernando Valley Mile & Dia de los Muertos Cultural Festival.

Sport (on-going)

Pickleball Open Gym Tuesdays, 5-9pm | Recreation Park | Ages 18+

Adult Basketball Fall Season Wednesdays | Recreation Park

Volleyball Open Gym

Thursdays, 5-9pm | Recreation Park | Ages 16+ (minors must be accompanied by an adult)

SPECIAL INTERESTS

Lopez Adobe

On September 23rd, the Lopez Adobe was open for tours during the Move Your Way Open Streets Festival. The Brooks Sisters were on site to offer guided tours of the Adobe, adding a special touch with their personal childhood memories of visiting family members that lived in the home.

Later in the evening, OktoberFiesta came to the Adobe in honor of Latino Heritage Month and Oktoberfest. The evening's event included free servings of mini pretzels and dogs, esquite (corn in a cup) and refreshing topo-cheladas. Folks enjoyed some lawn games, tried their luck on the inflatable axe throwing booth and were treated to a special performance by local band Sancho Bandido.

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The department's liaison to the Lopez Adobe has been hard at work creating content for the museum's blog which is managed by the contracted historian. The latest article was inspired by a lieutenant badge that was found while organizing items and features a look at the history of fire stations in the San Fernando. Click here to access the Lopez Adobe blog: https://lopezadobe.wordpress.com/2023/08/28/some-history-of-san-fernandos-fire-stations/

BUDGET IMPACT:

The programs, services, activity, and business updates in this report are part of the Department's work plan and funds have been allocated for such work in the FY 2023-2024 budget.

CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission receive and file the Department Update Report and provide any guidance or recommendations as appropriate.