



CHAIR (VACANT)  
COMMISSIONER ERICA FRIEND  
COMMISSIONER NATASHA SANCHEZ-BROOKS  
COMMISSIONER JULIE CUELLAR  
COMMISSIONER FREDY ORTEGA

## CITY OF SAN FERNANDO

### PARKS, WELLNESS, AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING AGENDA SUMMARY THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025 – 6:30 PM

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

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPTIONS**

Please visit the City's YouTube channel to live stream and watch previously recorded Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission meetings, which is also available with Spanish subtitles at: <https://www.youtube.com/c/CityOfSanFernando>

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability-related modification/accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including in-person translation services, or other services please call the Recreation and Community Services Department at (818) 898-7349 or email at [LMoreno@sfcity.org](mailto:LMoreno@sfcity.org) at least 2 business days prior to the meeting.

#### **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](mailto:LMoreno@sfcity.org) no later than **12:00 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 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.

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

When connecting to the Zoom meeting to speak, you will be placed in a virtual "waiting area," with your audio disabled, until it is your turn to speak and limited to three minutes.

# **PARKS, WELLNESS, AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

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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**

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

## **INTRODUCTION OF INCOMING COMMISSIONERS**

Welcome and Introduction of Incoming Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission Members:

Mr. Christian Garcia

Mr. Fredy Ortega

## **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.

Members of the public may submit comments by email to [LMoreno@sfcity.org](mailto:LMoreno@sfcity.org) no later than **12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting**, to ensure distribution to the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission and made part of the official public record of the meeting.

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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: Telephone Number: (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID: 986 1620 1615; Passcode: 988843**

## **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. November 14, 2024

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

### **2) SAN FERNANDO POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE ON PARK ACTIVITY**

Recommend that the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission receive and file this Informational report by SFPD, updating on activity and crime in the parks.

### **3) RECOGNITION PLAQUE FOR FORMER PARK DIRECTORS: JESS MARGARITO, JULIAN LEON**

Recommend that the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission support the placement of a plaque in recognition of the contributions to the City of San Fernando made by former Park Directors: Jess Margarito and Julian Leon.

### **4) SAN FERNANDO FAMILY CENTER AT PUIG'S HOUSE UPDATE**

Recommend that the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission receive and file this informational update on future plans at the San Fernando Family Center at Puig's House.

### **5) RUDY ORTEGA SR. PARK MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE REPORT**

Recommend that the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission receive and file this informational update on the maintenance schedule of Rudy Ortega Sr. Park.

## **PARKS, WELLNESS, AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

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### **6) CESAR E. CHAVEZ MEMORIAL**

Recommend that the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission:

- a. Discuss Ad Hoc Committee Updates;
- b. Continue to meet with Pueblo Y Salud until a renovation plan for the Memorial Plaza can be developed; and
- c. Provide staff direction as appropriate.

### **7) 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.

# PARKS, WELLNESS, AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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*Agendas and complete Agenda Packets (including staff reports and exhibits related to each item) are posted on the City's Internet Web site ([www.sfcity.org](http://www.sfcity.org)). These are also available for public reviewing prior to a meeting at the Recreation and Community Services Department Public Counter. Any public writings distributed by the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission to at least a majority of the Commissioners regarding any item on this regular meeting agenda will also be made available at the Recreation and Community Services Department Public Counter located at 208 Park Avenue, San Fernando, CA, 91340 during normal business hours. In addition, the City may also post such documents on the City's Web Site at [www.sfcity.org](http://www.sfcity.org). In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability-related modification/ accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services please call the Recreation and Community Services Department Office at (818) 898-7349 or [LMoreno@sfcity.org](mailto:LMoreno@sfcity.org) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.*

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CITY OF SAN FERNANDO  
PARKS, WELLNESS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 14, 2024  
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**

Chair R. Gonzales called the meeting to order at 6:32p.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 Julie Cuellar.

**ABSENT:**

Commissioner Erica Friend

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Recreation and Community Services Director Julio Salcedo, Public Works Director Wendell Johnson, Recreation Supervisor Maribel Perez, Administrative Assistant Linda Bowden-Moreno and Office Clerk Soledad Chavez.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair R. Gonzales led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Vice Chair P. Lopez motioned to approve the agenda for the November 14, 2024 Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting. Commissioner N. Sanchez Brooks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote:

# **PARKS, WELLNESS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**Regular Meeting Minutes –November 14, 2024**

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AYES: R. Gonzales, P. Lopez, N. Sanchez-Brooks and J. Cuellar.

NOES:

ABSENT: E. Friend

ABSTAIN:

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL**

Ricardo Benitez discussed the Cesar Chavez Memorial being in disrepair. He suggested seeking an organization to adopt the memorial as a project for beautification. In addition, some of the trees along Maclay Street need to be replaced and the faded sign coming in to the City from Laurel Canyon could use some attention.

Manny Granillo addressed the PWR Commission seeking support in recognizing former park directors, Julian Leon and Jess Margarito. Their contributions and mentorship to the community, specifically to the youth, are worthy of memorializing their work with a plaque. This item has been presented to the City Council. Fundraising opportunities are being discussed to cover the costs of the plaque.

Mark Marquez, a longtime resident and former park commissioner, discussed the many contributions made by Julian Leon and Jess Margarito and the importance of recognizing the legacy and impact they made by displaying an honorary plaque.

Rosa Osoria, a City resident, is here to discuss the lack of adequate lighting at Pioneer Park. In addition the score board is not functioning. She asked for the commission to assist in addressing these issues.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Vice Chair P. Lopez motioned to approve the Consent Calendar approving the Minutes of the October 10, 2024 Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission Meeting.

# **PARKS, WELLNESS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

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Commissioner N. Sanchez-Brooks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote:

AYES: R. Gonzales, P. Lopez, N. Sanchez-Brooks, J. Cuellar

NOES:

ABSENT: E. Friend

ABSTAIN:

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**2. PRESENTATION ON THE PACOIMA WASH BIKEWAY PROJECT**– Public Works Director Wendell Johnson provided a general update on all infrastructure projects including the Pacoima Wash Bikeway Project which is just about completed. Public Works staff is creating a punch list of items left to complete, such as adding bollards to prevent cars from entering, addressing crosswalk visibility, and other items. At this time, he opened the floor for questions or comments.

**3. CESAR E. CHAVEZ MEMORIAL** –No update to report

**4. DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES** – Staff provided an update report on upcoming events, activities and programming. At this time, he opened the floor for questions or comments.

## **STAFF COMMUNICATION**

W. Johnson reported that the Pioneer Park play equipment is complete. Shade sails will be installed in the near future.

M. Perez announced that the RCS Department is promoting the Holiday Class Pass to provide an opportunity for participants to try out leisure classes at no charge through the month of December. Also, the Afterschool Teen Program will be celebrating a *Friendsgiving* event on the 21<sup>st</sup> and a Holiday MBA tournament in December with the assistance of a coach. Also, the Lopez Adobe will be open for tours during the Holiday Tree Lighting event on December 7, 2024.

J. Salcedo invited everyone to the upcoming Tree Lighting Event that will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2024, in conjunction with the Night Market in the mall.

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



## **PARKS, WELLNESS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**Regular Meeting Minutes –November 14, 2024**

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Commissioner J. Cuellar motioned to agendize an update on future plans at the San Fernando Family Center at Puig’s House located at Pioneer Park.

Vice Chair Patty Lopez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote:

AYES: R. Gonzales, P. Lopez, N. Sanchez-Brooks, J. Cuellar

NOES:

ABSENT: E. Friend

ABSTAIN:

Commissioner N. Sanchez-Brooks congratulated staff on the Pioneer Park project and had questions regarding the picnic shelters that are in disrepair.

Vice Chair P. Lopez motioned to agendize an update on the maintenance schedule at Rudy Ortega Park.

Commissioner N. Sanchez-Brooks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote:

AYES: R. Gonzales, P. Lopez, N. Sanchez-Brooks, J. Cuellar

NOES:

ABSENT: E. Friend

ABSTAIN:

Vice Chair P. Lopez commented on the new park signage and the difficulty some park patrons may have in reporting issues regarding maintenance of restrooms. Commissioner J. Cuellar will address this concern at the next Transportation and Public Safety Commission meeting.

Chair R. Gonzales thanked staff and expressed how glad he is to see numerous projects that are in the works and in completion phase for the benefit of the community.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair R. Gonzales adjourned the Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission meeting at 7:42 p.m.

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**To:** Commission Members

**From:** Julio Salcedo, Director of Recreation and Community Services  
By: Maribel Perez, Recreation & Community Services Supervisor  
Walter Domiguez, SFPD Lieutenant  
Sylvia Ortega, Police Records Administrator

**Date:** March 13, 2025

**Subject:** San Fernando Police Department Update on Park Activity

**RECOMMENDATION:**

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

- a. Receive and file an update from SFPD on activity and crime in the Parks; and
- b. Provide staff direction as appropriate.

**BACKGROUND:**

1. On February 8, 2024 the Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission requested to receive quarterly updates from SFPD reporting on activity and crime in the Parks.

**ANALYSIS:**

The recreational value of parks is integral to the well-being of the community and its residents, offering spaces for leisure, exercise, and social interaction. However, amid the serene environment of these public areas, parks also become focal points for various activities, both constructive and detrimental. As guardians of public safety, the City of San Fernando Police Department has diligently monitored and analyzed the trends in park activity and crime to ensure the continued enjoyment and safety of all park-goers.

The quarterly report aims to provide an overview of the recent activity and crime trends observed within the parks under the department's jurisdiction, which are the following:

- Recreation Park, 208 Park Ave.
- Layne Park, 120 N. Huntington St.

## San Fernando Police Department Update on Park Activity

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- Las Palmas Park, 505 S. Huntington St.
- Pioneer Park, 828 Harding Ave.
- Rudy Ortega Senior Park, 2025 Fourth St.
- Cindy Montañez Natural Park, 801 Eight St.

The quarterly report will include a San Fernando City Parks Crime Trends table (Attachment “A”) illustrating information regarding police reports, moving citations, parking citations, traffic collisions and Community Resource Management (CRM’s) that occurred in and around the parks. The report will also provide a map view of the City with color-coded citations (Attachment “B”) to provide an overview of the information reported on the table.

In addition to providing the data, a representative from the Police Department will attend the PWRC meetings on a quarterly basis to present the report and answer any questions from the commission.

### Schedule of Quarterly Reports

<b>Commission Meeting</b>	<b>SFPD Update Quarterly Report</b>
January	October - December
April	January - March
July	April – June
October	July - Sept

### **BUDGET IMPACT:**

There is no budget impact to receive and file the San Fernando Police Department Update on Park Activity.

### **CONCLUSION:**

It is recommended that the Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission receive and file the update report and provide staff with direction as appropriate.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- A. Park Crime Trends Report
- B. Park Crime Map

**ATTACHMENT "A"**

<b>San Fernando City Parks Crime Trends</b>		<b>October 2024</b>	<b>November 2024</b>	<b>December 2024</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Recreation Park</b>	Reports	0	2	3	5
	Citations	1	0	0	1
	Parking Citations	8	11	5	24
	Traffic Collisions	0	0	0	0
	CRMs	38	49	42	129
<b>Layne Park</b>	Reports	0	0	0	0
	Citations	0	0	0	0
	Parking Citations	0	0	0	0
	Traffic Collisions	0	0	0	0
	CRMs	3	7	5	15
<b>Las Palmas Park</b>	Reports	1	0	1	2
	Citations	6	0	1	7
	Parking Citations	0	3	3	6
	Traffic Collisions	0	0	0	0
	CRMs	28	55	44	127
<b>Pioneer Park</b>	Reports	0	0	1	1
	Citations	0	1	0	1
	Parking Citations	0	0	1	1
	Traffic Collisions	0	0	0	0
	CRMs	5	24	19	48
<b>Ortega Park</b>	Reports	0	1	2	3
	Citations	0	0	0	0
	Parking Citations	0	0	1	1
	Traffic Collisions	0	0	0	0
	CRMs	10	22	24	56
<b>Cindy Montanez Natural Park</b>	Reports	0	0	0	0
	Citations	0	0	0	0
	Parking Citations	0	0	0	0
	Traffic Collisions	0	0	0	0
	CRMs	5	5	1	11

CRM: Community Resource Management

## Recreation Park

**Reports:**                    **Oct:** ---  
                                  **Nov:** (1) Driving a Stolen Vehicle Arrest, (1) Warrant Arrest  
                                  **Dec:** (1) Vehicle Repossession, (1) Grand Theft Report, (1) Violation of Restraining Order Arrest

**Citations:**                **Oct:** (1) Alcohol in the Park Violation  
                                  **Nov:** ---  
                                  **Dec:** ---

**Parking Citations:**    **Oct:** (1) Sweeper Violation, (1) Handicap Violation, (2) Green Zone Violation, (4) 2 License Plates Required  
                                  **Nov:** (1) Expired Registration, (2) Sweeper Violation, (1) Disable Crosshatch, (3) Employee Parking Only, (4) Bus Zone Violation  
                                  **Dec:** (5) Sweeper Violation

**Traffic Collisions:**    **Oct:** ---  
                                  **Nov:** ---  
                                  **Dec:** ---

## Layne Park

**Reports:**                    **Oct:** ---  
                                  **Nov:** ---  
                                  **Dec:** ---

**Citations:**                **Oct:** ---  
                                  **Nov:** ---  
                                  **Dec:** ---

**Parking Citations:**    **Oct:** ---  
                                  **Nov:** ---  
                                  **Dec:** ---

**Traffic Collisions:**    **Oct:** ---  
                                  **Nov:** ---  
                                  **Dec:** ---

## Las Palmas Park

<b>Reports:</b>	<b>Oct:</b> (1) DUI Arrest
	<b>Nov:</b> ---
	<b>Dec:</b> (1) Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
<b>Citations:</b>	<b>Oct:</b> (6) In Park After Hours
	<b>Nov:</b> ---
	<b>Dec:</b> (1) Stop Sign Violation
<b>Parking Citations:</b>	<b>Oct:</b> ---
	<b>Nov:</b> (1) Expired Registration, (1) Missing Month Tab, (1) Prohibited Parking During Specific Times
	<b>Dec:</b> (2) Red Zone Violations, (1) Handicap Violation
<b>Traffic Collisions:</b>	<b>Oct:</b> ---
	<b>Nov:</b> ---
	<b>Dec:</b> ---

## Pioneer Park

<b>Reports:</b>	<b>Oct:</b> ---
	<b>Nov:</b> ---
	<b>Dec:</b> (1) Recovered Stolen Vehicle
<b>Citations:</b>	<b>Oct:</b> ---
	<b>Nov:</b> (1) Alcohol in Public Park
	<b>Dec:</b> ---
<b>Parking Citations:</b>	<b>Oct:</b> ---
	<b>Nov:</b> ---
	<b>Dec:</b> (1) Private Parking Violation
<b>Traffic Collisions:</b>	<b>Oct:</b> ---
	<b>Nov:</b> ---
	<b>Dec:</b> ---

## Ortega Park

**Reports:**            **Oct:** ---  
                          **Nov:** **(1) Found Property Report**  
                          **Dec:** **(1) Impounded Vehicle, (1) Vandalism Report**

**Citations:**        **Oct:** ---  
                          **Nov:** ---  
                          **Dec:** ---

**Parking Citations:** **Oct:** ---  
                          **Nov:** ---  
                          **Dec:** **(1) Expired Registration Violation**

**Traffic Collisions:** **Oct:** ---  
                          **Nov:** ---  
                          **Dec:** ---

## Cindy Montanez Natural Park

**Reports:**            **Oct:** ---  
                          **Nov:** ---  
                          **Dec:** ---

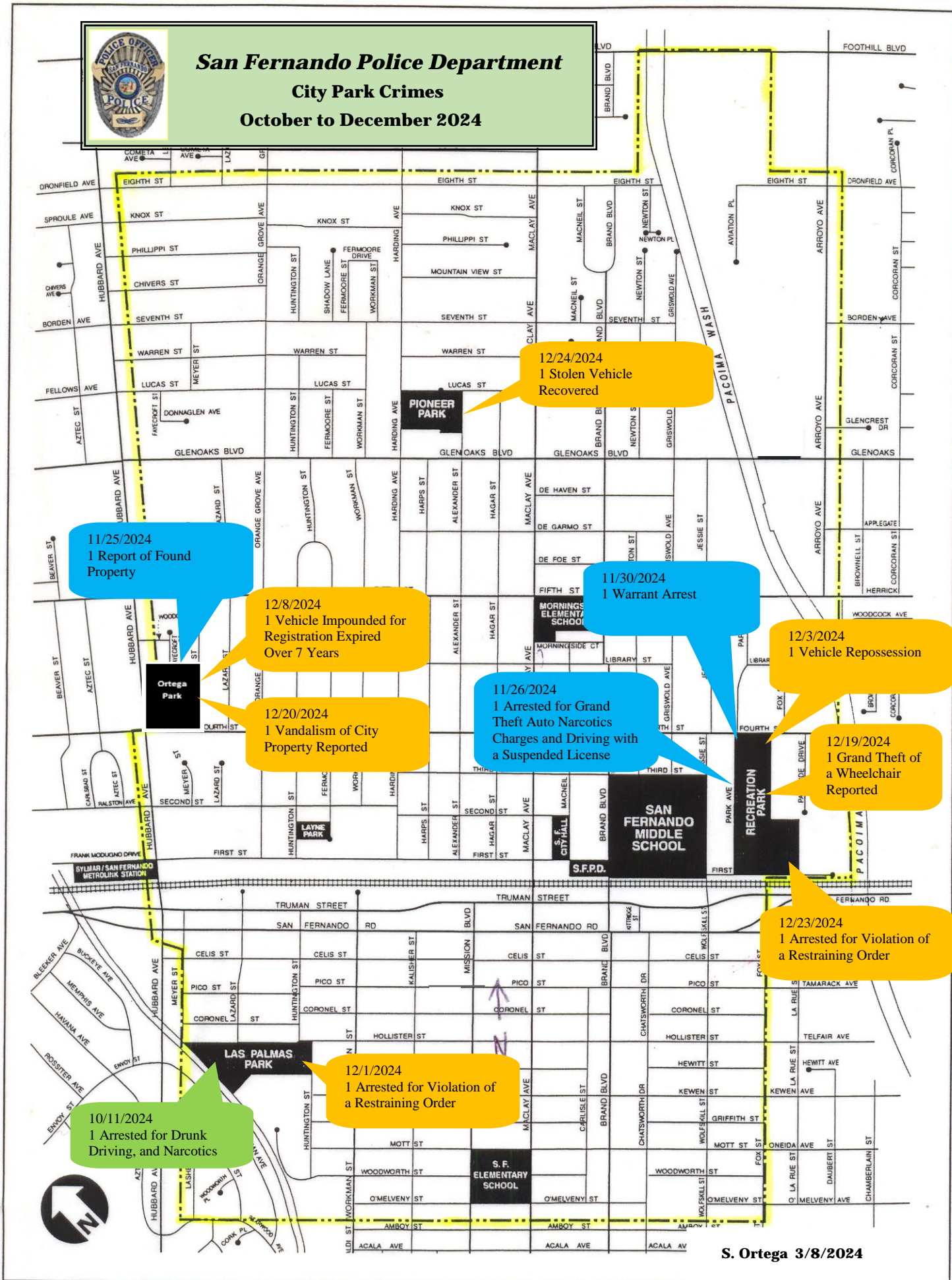
**Citations:**        **Oct:** ---  
                          **Nov:** ---  
                          **Dec:** ---

**Parking Citations:** **Oct:** ---  
                          **Nov:** ---  
                          **Dec:** ---

**Traffic Collisions:** **Oct:** ---  
                          **Nov:** ---  
                          **Dec:** ---



# San Fernando Police Department City Park Crimes October to December 2024



S. Ortega 3/8/2024



**To:** Commission Members

**From:** Julio Salcedo, Director of Recreation and Community Services  
By: Juan Salas, Recreation and Community Services Supervisor

**Date:** March 13, 2025

**Subject:** Consideration to Accept the Donation of a Commemorative Plaque to be Installed in the Front Lobby of Las Palmas Park

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission make the following recommendations to City Council:

- a. Accept the donation of a commemorative plaque from a local group of San Fernando residents;
- b. Authorize the Public Works Department to install the plaque;
- c. Review and approve any necessary edits or modifications to the plaque text and images, ensuring the final version aligns with the City's values and standards; and
- d. Authorize the group of San Fernando residents spearheading this project to host an unveiling ceremony for the public at Las Palmas Park, tentatively scheduled on a Saturday in late May or June of 2025, and to waive any associated fees.

**BACKGROUND:**

1. On September 25, 2024, Manny Granillo approached Recreation and Community Services (RCS) staff about developing and displaying a plaque at Las Palmas Park commemorating former staff members, Julian Leon and Jess Margarito, for their contributions as Park Directors for the City of San Fernando.
2. On November 8, 2024, a group of San Fernando residents met with Recreation and Community Services (RCS) staff regarding the location and size of the plaque. The residents were all former neighborhood children whose lives were heavily influenced by the leadership of Julian Leon and Jess Margarito.

## Consideration to Accept the Donation of a Commemorative Plaque to be installed in the Front Lobby of Las Palmas Park

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3. On February 3, 2025, RCS staff received a proof of the proposed plaque.

### **ANALYSIS:**

The proposed plaque, funded by a group of San Fernando residents, is intended to honor former Parks Directors, Julian Leon (1956-1969) and Jess Margarito (1969-1979), for their significant contributions in providing life-changing experiences to the community's youth. This effort has been led by community members Manny Granillo, Mark Marquez, Alfred Calzadillas, and Richard Villa, who organized fundraising efforts to cover the cost of the plaque.

The plaque is proposed to be installed in the front lobby of Las Palmas Park. The residents have requested that the City's Public Works Department handle the installation at no cost, while they will assume all expenses associated with the unveiling ceremony, which is tentatively scheduled on a Saturday in late May or June, of 2025.

Public Works staff has reviewed the proposal and determined that the project is feasible, requiring minimal site preparation before installation. Staff will need to identify structural beams on the designated wall to ensure the plaque is securely mounted.

In considering the proposal (Attachment "A") to install a plaque honoring two individuals (Attachment "B"), it is essential to thoroughly evaluate their historical actions and the implications of such recognition. Recent research has revealed that one of the individuals in question was removed from office due to misconduct. Specifically, a San Fernando Valley Sun news article (Attachment "C") reported that Jess Margarito had passed away on January 8, 2021. The article reported on his work with the Chicano movement, marching with Cesar Chavez, and his efforts in the political arena. The article also makes reference to Jess Margarito being removed from his position with the City in 1994, as a result of an investigation related to misappropriation of funds and engaging in unethical activities while holding public office.

Recognizing an individual with such a record may raise ethical considerations and impact public trust. It is important to ensure that those chosen to be recognized demonstrate integrity and make a positive contribution to this community's legacy. Therefore, it is recommended that the Commission review and approve any necessary changes to the plaque text and images prior to final approval to ensure the inscription reflects the City's values and standards.

The final decision rests with the Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission. Staff is available to provide any additional information or support needed in this deliberation.

## **Consideration to Accept the Donation of a Commemorative Plaque to be installed in the Front Lobby of Las Palmas Park**

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### **BUDGET IMPACT:**

The plaque will be paid by the local resident group. The installation will be provided by the Public Works Department at an estimated cost of \$217 in staff time.

### **CONCLUSION:**

It is recommended that the Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission review and consider this request to provide City Council appropriate direction on accepting the plaque donation from the local group of residents. This recommendation would also include authorizing the Public Works Department to install the plaque at the Las Palmas Park lobby, and allow an unveiling ceremony with all rental fees waived. Additionally, the Commission will review and approve any modifications to the plaque text or images as part of this agenda item, ensuring the final version aligns with the City's values without requiring further approval at a later date.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**




- A. Proposal to the City of San Fernando
- B. Plaque Proof
- C. San Fernando Valley Sun Article

## **ATTACHMENT "A"**

### **Proposal to San Fernando City Council**

- The group proposes to donate a plaque to be placed in the front lobby of Las Palmas Park.
- The plaque (40" x 28" – measurements to be confirmed) will be in bronze.
- The unveiling of the plaque will take place on a Saturday in late May or June, depending on when the plaque is completed and installed.
- The unveiling event will be open to the community and the RCS staff will be in attendance to assist with setup, cleanup, and tear down.

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO  
LAS PALMAS PARK



**JULIAN LEON**  
JULY 1, 1956 - DEC. 12, 1969

**JESS MARGARITO**  
JUNE 9, 1969 - JULY 5, 1979

RECREATION DIRECTORS AND US ARMY VETERANS

A celebration of life for Julian Leon and Jess Margarito who were directors at Las Palmas Park in the city of San Fernando. We give thanks for their leadership, commitment to sportsmanship, and an understanding of the neighborhood. They provided us with a safe park environment, and a willingness to teach. Thank you from the many of us who spent countless hours at Las Palmas Park.

LAS PALMAS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD 2025

**NEWS, NEWS**

# "An Eagle Warrior Has Fallen"

by By Mike Terry and Diana Martinez, SFV Sun/El Sol  
January 13, 2021



**Jess Margarito**

Jess Margarito, a lifelong resident of the City of San Fernando who was the first Chicano elected to the city council and who also served as mayor, has died from complications of the COVID-19 virus. He was 73.

Margarito passed away on Jan. 8, 2021. He began battling the virus in mid-December, and at one point was placed into a medically-induced coma at the UCLA Medical Center, according to daughter Analisa Margarito Flores, the second of Margarito's three children. She has an older sister, Yolanda Margarito Montoya, and a younger brother, Jesse, Jr.

Margarito's wife of 50 years, Cecilia, also became ill from the virus and spent several days in an intensive care unit but is recovering, Flores said.

"This [illness] came suddenly," Flores said. "He still worked 6-7 days a week (as a director at the Immigration Services of Santa Rosa in San Fernando). He [exercised and] worked out. He had already gone to urgent care once; he thought it was the flu. He [eventually was] on treatment for COVID, but nobody thought this would take him down."

After working for years as a community activist, Margarito was elected to the local council in 1984 and was named mayor by fellow council members in 1986 — the first year the council had a Latino majority. He was hailed by friends as "a trailblazer" in local politics as well as someone "with a big heart."

"To me he was one of our early leaders before we had any political representation here in the City of San Fernando," said Ruben Rodriguez, executive director of Pueblo Y Salud, a nonprofit organization with an office in San Fernando that offers health services, drug/alcohol prevention programs, and is involved in local politics.

"I would say he was ahead of his time, a natural leader, a trailblazer. He was able to inspire people, to get them involved in having Latino representation in the City of San Fernando."

Lifelong friend Richard Villa, like Margarito, also grew up in San Fernando. "We have a history. We worked together, played ball together, double-dated together, got in trouble together...he was best man at my wedding, I was best man at his wedding," he said.

"There aren't enough words to describe Jess Margarito. To me, he was special, he was unique, he was one-of-a-kind. He had a big heart. He was my *pistolero* — a guy who's always with you and has your back."

### **Inspired by Latino Political Movements**

Margarito, who graduated from San Fernando High School (and also played quarterback on the football team), spent two years in the US Army before being discharged in 1968.

San Fernando was a very different city at that time.

"Back in the 1950s and 1960s, San Fernando was divided; it was like the Hatfields and McCoys," Villa said. "The railroad tracks was the dividing line; Latinos lived on one side and the other side was all the white people. We grew up in it. We lived it."

Rodriguez agreed. "Most of the council at that time lived in what we called the Huntington Estates. Huntington is a street here, near Glenoaks. We called it the 'Estates' because that's where the big houses were.

It's where all the local business people were who kinda ran the city."

But Magarito was undergoing his political awakening after returning from the Army. While a student at LA Valley College he formed a branch of MEChA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan). He also marched with Cesar Chavez during the grape picker's strike in Delano, CA, that lasted from 1965-1970.

Margarito also became involved with the progressive La Raza Unida (The Race United) Party that first began in Texas in 1970 and spread west to other states including California during the height of the Chicano movement. With a small, committed core group, Margarito helped to establish a San Fernando Valley branch of the party that ran out of a small office that became an active meeting spot and the base for organizing and campaigning for candidates in key state senate and assembly races.

Throwing his own hat into the political ring, Margarito made his first attempt to run for a local city council seat in San Fernando in 1972, but did not win. In 1974, La Raza Unida filed a federal court case against the City of San Fernando charging that at-large elections prevented Chicano/ Mexican American candidates from being elected.

The case was eventually decided against La Raza Unida in 1980 although, since this time, at-large-elections viewed as discriminatory on local elections as the "oldest trick in the book" have been banned by Congress in all federal elections and discarded in most states. They persist however in the City of San Fernando.

Margarito stayed close to home, working as a volunteer at jobs he viewed that allowed him to bridge the places he worked with the community. For more than 10 years at Las Palmas Park, he first worked as a part-time recreation aide before becoming a full-time senior leader there. He worked for the US Census Bureau. He also worked as an information programming specialist for Valley Cable TV and helped obtain a franchise for the City of San Fernando.

In 1984 he decided to try to run again for the city council. With the support of Rodriguez and Villa, who helped run his campaign and led voter registration drives, Margarito was able to break through and get elected. His victory for the first time gave representation to residents who didn't feel they had a voice, opening the door for others besides its white residents to run and changing the face of local politics in his hometown.

"A lot of people helped. We had people knocking on doors of those capable of voting," Villa recalled. "We brought people out of their caves, so to speak. And we had a good turnout."



“It became real that a Latino could run and win in the City of San Fernando,” Rodriguez said. “That changed everything; others came about afterward and continued to get elected. But [Margarito] opened up that road. He made it real. A lot of young people [today] may not know about him. But he was definitely a trailblazer.”

Flores naturally grew up in an environment of activism and political education because of her father.

“I was a MEChA president at San Fernando High and I worked for Cesar Chavez,” she said. “I was helping with voter registration when I was 4-5 years old. [Her father] always had us with him [at his side].”

### **Investigated by Police**

Margarito served on the council for eight years until he resigned in 1990, taking a position to become director of the city’s Recreation and Community Services Department. But he was fired from that position in 1994, following a three-year investigation by the San Fernando Police Department, and was accused of signing documents verifying work by three convicted criminals that was never performed between April 1992 and December 1993.

In a plea agreement, Margarito was given three years probation and was required to perform 200 hours of community service. Ironically, working community service would have likely to have been what Margarito would normally do anyway and never viewed as “punishment.”

Flores and others believed her father had been “targeted” by political enemies but — as she described — “he never held a grudge” even though “the City tried to get him on everything.”

“I think the case cost \$1 million,” she said. “Even the three people (accused of not doing the work) said, ‘he was just a nice guy and signed off the papers because he thought we would actually do the work.’ That’s the kind stuff my dad did.”

### **Kept on Working**

While some would view his fall from grace with the small city as a scandal big enough to make him recoil, Margarito continued to seek out work that he believed could benefit the community.

In the Valley, he remained a respected “original activist” and a “go-to” guy that others still sought for a good discussion about the early days of organizing that was the foundation for the many Latino political leaders who have successfully been elected today.

Local organizations knew that they could count on his personal generosity to dig into his own pockets to purchase fundraising tickets or give a needed donation. He focused his passion by working with undocumented immigrants, staying right in the heart of his community, which turned into a position at the agency — Immigration Services of Santa Rosa on Maclay.

His niece, Stephanie Escoto, works in the San Fernando office with Margarito. She said her uncle always had a big “hello” and “good morning” for staff and visitors. And he was a huge fan of the Dodgers, Lakers and Rams sports teams.

“He was super excited when [the Dodgers and Lakers] won their championships in 2020,” Escoto said. “He put their team flags up in the office.”

When asked what she would remember most about her father, Flores briefly broke into tears.

“He was my best friend,” Flores said. “We’d go to breakfast together, have lunch. He had so much love for his family. He loved to take us all out to eat, and eat well....Our home, every holiday, we would have strangers in our home because he would pick up somebody who needed a Thanksgiving or Christmas meal. He would open his garage for people to live in who just came into the country — who we knew or didn’t know.

“His family had been extremely poor; his brothers had either been in gangs or were just hard construction workers. But he worked for the community or did these political things with no example. He always told us you could never be too generous or too forgiving. He was just a different soul,” she said.

Rodriguez offered a final tribute.

“In Aztec history we have what they called the Eagle Warriors,” he said, reflecting on the strength of those warriors in ancient Mexico who were in constant battle. “And now another Eagle Warrior has fallen.”

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# MEMORANDUM

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**To:** Commission Members

**From:** Julio Salcedo, Director of Recreation and Community Services

**Date:** March 13, 2025

**Subject:** Update on the San Fernando Family Center at Puig's House

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Parks, Wellness and Recreation (PWR) Commission receive and file an update on the San Fernando Family Center at Puig's House.

## **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

This item was added to the agenda by Commissioner Julie Cuellar at the November 14, 2024 Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting.

## **BUDGET IMPACT**

There is no impact to the budget by discussing this item.



## MEMORANDUM

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**To:** Commission Members

**From:** Julio Salcedo, Director of Recreation and Community Services

**Date:** March 13, 2025

**Subject:** Update on the Rudy Ortega Sr. Park Maintenance Schedule

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Parks, Wellness and Recreation (PWR) Commission receive and file an update on the Rudy Ortega Sr. Park maintenance schedule.

### **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

This item was added to the agenda by former Vice Chair Patty Lopez at the November 14, 2024 Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting.

### **BUDGET IMPACT**

There is no impact to the budget by discussing this item.



## MEMORANDUM

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**To:** Commission Members

**From:** Julio Salcedo, Director of Recreation and Community Services

**Date:** March 13, 2025

**Subject:** Cesar E. Chavez Memorial

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Parks, Wellness and Recreation (PWR) Commission receive and file an update on the Cesar E. Chavez Memorial.

### **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

The Ad Hoc Committee has met previously with Pueblo Y Salud (PYS) to discuss the development of a renovation plan for the Cesar E. Chavez Memorial. The Ad Hoc has met with RCS Director Julio Salcedo to review the existing MOU with Pueblo Y Salud. A date will be scheduled to conduct a tour of the Cesar E. Chavez Memorial and Recreation Park Facility.

This item was originally added to the agenda by former Vice Chair Patty Lopez.

### **BUDGET IMPACT**

There is no impact to the budget by discussing this item.



**To:** Commission Members

**From:** Julio Salcedo, Recreation and Community Services Director  
By: Maribel Perez, Recreation and Community Services Supervisor  
Linda Bowden-Moreno, RCS Administrative Assistant

**Date:** March 13, 2025

**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:**

- 1. The mission of the Recreation and Community Services (RCS) Department 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

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

### **Holiday Tree Lighting Event**

The City of San Fernando held the annual Holiday Tree Lighting Event on Saturday, December 7, 2024. Among the free-flowing hot cocoa, champurrado and sweet bread, the annual Holiday Tree Lighting was a great opportunity to bring the community together and spread good holiday cheer. Several thousand spectators gathered to anxiously await the lighting of the holiday tree in the City of San Fernando. Like a scene out of a Hallmark movie, children danced and people cheered, as the tree lit up in all its colorful glory. In partnership with the San Fernando Outdoor Market, all enjoyed the many food vendors, local artisans, live music and dance performances and the opportunity to take photos with Santa himself, even the Grinch made a special appearance. The Lopez Adobe was the place to see Santa's workshop in action and for children to partake in various holiday activities. City staff and dignitaries addressed the community and in the holiday spirit, shared the joy of spending this special moment with family, friends, neighbors and all community members. Through this event, the City of San Fernando was able to have a successful kickoff to the holidays that was a resounding success!

### **Winter Camp**

The Winter Camp session concluded on January 3, 2025 with a total of 18 campers enrolled in the program. The children enjoyed working on holiday crafts, science projects and playing a variety of indoor and outdoor games and activities. Be on the lookout for this year's Summer Camp which offers educational activities, swim time at the San Fernando Pool, and field trips. More information to come!

### **Veteran Recognition Program**

The City of San Fernando's Veteran Recognition Program proudly includes the Veteran Banner Program, which honors local veterans by displaying 48 banners throughout Maclay Avenue and Truman Street. These banners showcase the service and dedication of veterans in the community and are displayed from May through mid-November. Applications are now being accepted for the program through mid-April. This program is a testament to the City's deep appreciation and respect for the many sacrifices made by local veterans and their families. For more information on this program, please call Las Palmas Park at (818) 898-7340 or email Juan Salas at [JSalas@sfcity.org](mailto:JSalas@sfcity.org).

### **Vet at the Park**

The City of San Fernando in partnership with the Department of Animal Care and Control, held the **Vet@the Park Free Wellness Clinic** on Sunday, December 15, 2024 at Rudy Ortega Sr. Park. Over 250 pets received vaccinations, microchipping, and various other veterinary services at no cost. The City of San Fernando looks forward to continue the partnership with the Department of Animal Care and Control in providing free services to ensure the wellbeing of the community's beloved pets.

### **CSUN VITA Clinic is ready for the 2025 Tax Season!**

Under the supervision of experienced tax practitioners, trained and certified CSUN students provide free tax preparation services (federal and state) to eligible low-income taxpayers. This **Free Income Tax Preparation Program** is offered at Las Palmas Park from January through April of 2025. Professionally trained volunteers can prepare and electronically file your federal and state income tax returns. Appointments are available at Las Palmas Park on Friday afternoons and Saturday morning. For appointments email [vita@csun.edu](mailto:vita@csun.edu) or call (818) 677-3600.

### **Emergency Response to Wild Fires and High Wind Events in San Fernando**

In response to recent wild fires fueled by high winds, the City of San Fernando has designated Las Palmas Park and Recreation Park as Community Relief Centers to ensure impacted community members have access to services such as a charging station for devices, a safe location for families who have lost power, drinking water, snacks, and board games. Facilities are activated once emergency situations impact local communities. Facilities are open to anyone in need of a comfortable place to relax, charge devices, use the restroom, and enjoy water, light snacks and games.

Additionally, two distributions were held at Las Palmas Park on January 10 and 17, 2025. In partnership with Ignite the Light of Hope Foundation, families affected by wild fires, power outages and fear of leaving their home due to ICE (U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement) were provided with vital supplies and resources such as food items, hygiene products, clothing, toys, drinking water and more. The San Fernando team partnered with various organizations to mobilize and help over 2000 individuals in need.

## **SENIOR SERVICES**

### **Jingle Bell Rock Out Celebration for Seniors**

Approximately 100 seniors gathered in festive attire at Las Palmas Park on Friday, December 20, 2024 to celebrate the holiday season. Participants enjoyed dancing, treats, raffles and more. It was a great opportunity for seniors to wear their most festive sweaters and enjoy a fun afternoon celebration with friends.

### **La Amistad Café**

Las Palmas Park cordially invites the senior community to a lovely Amistad Café event to celebrate Valentine's Day. Join the fun on Friday, February 14, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. to enjoy your favorite cup of tea, coffee, and pastries, while catching up with old friends and making new ones. For more information please call Las Palmas Park at (818) 898-7340.

### **Senior Meals**

In partnership with ONEgeneration, Las Palmas Park continues to host the Elderly Nutrition Program (ENP) for seniors. Stop by and register with the ONEgeneration team, Rene and Hayle,



and enjoy a delicious and nutritious hot meal! Folks that are 60+ can qualify for this free program (suggested donation is \$3) Mondays through Fridays. If you know of anyone that is 60+ and is homebound, ONEgeneration can deliver hot meals 5 days a week! For more information please call (818) 898-7340.

### **Platicas de la Vida con Café**

In partnership with the Department of Mental Health, Las Palmas Park is hosting workshops to discuss and offer assistance to those dealing with emotional trauma, anxiety and everyday life situations. Classes are held in Spanish on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 9:00 am. Please contact Las Palmas Park at (818) 898-1290 for more information.

### **Los Angeles Regional Food Bank Distribution**

The Regional Food Bank monthly distribution was held on Monday, February 3, 2025 from 9:00am-11:00am and distributed approximately 230 food kits. This program continues to serve seniors age 60+ on a monthly basis at Las Palmas Park. This drive-through food program provides a free food kit containing nutritious items such as meats, canned fruits and vegetables, cereals and grains. The program serves an average of over 200 seniors monthly. The next distribution will be held on Monday, February 3, 2025. For more information on food assistance programs please contact Las Palmas Park at (818) 898-7340.

### **Painting at the Park**

This step-by-step art class teaches seniors self-expression through art in creating their very own masterpiece. This class offers the tools to learn techniques and discover creativity in painting. Supplies and instruction are provided. Classes are offered monthly at Las Palmas Park.

### **Monthly Matinee**

Every first Thursday of the month, Las Palmas Park is transformed into a matinee featuring family friendly films and treats. The activity is open to the public and showtime is at 12:00 pm.

### **Doc Talk Workshop**

Las Palmas Park continues to host Doc Talk workshops to discuss important health and wellness issues. A medical doctor is present to provide information and answer questions. Lunch is provided, courtesy of Regal Medical Group. The next workshop is scheduled on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 12:00 pm and will discuss topics of Weight Management and Healthy Lifestyle. Please contact Las Palmas Park at (818) 898-7340 for more information.

### **Intro to Computers**

The *Intro to Computers* class is geared for seniors to learn basic computer skills and important tips on navigating the internet securely, including how to identify safe websites and avoid common online threats. Additionally, participants will practice typing and become familiar with keyboard functions to improve their technology skills. Classes are offered at Las Palmas Park. For more information please call (818) 898-7340.

### **Senior Club News**

The Monthly Senior Dance will be held on Saturday, March 15, 2025 at Las Palmas Park. Enjoy live music in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. Doors open at 7:00 pm. Ticket prices were \$15 for members and \$25 for non-members. The next Senior Dance is scheduled on Saturday, April 26, 2025 and the theme will be spring. For more information call Las Palmas Park at (818) 898-7340.

Senior Club Monthly Meetings occur on the first Sunday of each month at 1:00 pm at Las Palmas Park. Seniors interested in becoming active and involved in the Senior Club may attend meetings or call 818-898-7340 for more details.

### **Senior Club Membership 2025**

Membership dues and registrations for 2025 are now being accepted for Senior Club members at Las Palmas Park through the month of March. Membership is a great way to get involved with the Las Palmas Senior Club and also receive discounts on dance tickets and trip rates. The cost of membership is \$42 annually.

### **Ongoing Senior Programs**

The following senior activities are ongoing. For more details on programs and activities, please call Las Palmas Park at 818-898-7340 or visit the City Website at [www.sfcity.org](http://www.sfcity.org).

Music Class

Clase de Canto

Bingo

Arthritis Exercise

Crafty Ladies

Manejo Personal de Diabetes

Walkable Wednesday

Classes de Ingles

Adult Coloring

Senior Zumba

Chair Yoga

### **SOCIAL SERVICES**

#### **San Fernando After School Teen Program**

The After School Teen Program is going strong! The program offers early open gym for teens only, a game room with Playstation 5, foosball, a ping pong table, board games, as well as homework assistance and school supplies. The program operates Monday through Friday, from

3 pm to 6 pm at San Fernando Recreation Park located at 208 Park Ave. For more information, please call (818) 898-1290.

### **Teens for a Better Community**

Teens for a Better Community (TBC) continues to meet and hold discussions on programs, brainstorming sessions, and volunteer opportunities. Snacks and refreshments are provided. This month's meetings are scheduled on March 11 and 25. Meetings are now held in the new teen lounge at Recreation Park. For more information please call (818) 898-7340. For more information please call (818) 898-7340 or email [jsalas@sfcity.org](mailto:jsalas@sfcity.org).

### **Business and Community Resource Center (BCRC)**

On December 10, 2024 staff organized an Open House at the Business and Community Resource Center, where 50 guests participated in the event to mark its one-year anniversary. Community members, staff, organizations, and local businesses came together to honor the milestone and network while enjoying snacks and goodies. Visit the BCRC at City Hall to seek information on resources and collaboration opportunities to empower small businesses and strengthen the community.

## **RECREATION**

### **Leisure & Fitness Classes**

Classes are currently in session and available for registration in-person by visiting one of the park offices or online by visiting [www.sfcity.org/sfrecreation](http://www.sfcity.org/sfrecreation).

- **3 Wins Fitness San Fernando**  
Mon, Wed & Fri | 8:15am | Recreation Park
- **Total Body Conditioning**  
Mon-Thur | 7:00pm | Recreation Park
- **Inclusive Zumba**  
Mon & Wed | 6:00pm | Recreation Park
- **Folklorico**  
Wed & Fri | 7pm | Las Palmas Park
- **Shotokan Karate**  
Saturdays | 9am | Las Palmas Park
- **Senior Music**  
Tuesdays | 9am | Las Palmas Park
- **Clase de Canto**  
Thursdays | 9am | Las Palmas Park

**Youth Basketball Winter Season**

The Youth Basketball Winter session is in full swing through April 5, 2025. Over 100 children ages 7-16 are currently registered in this program which operates out of Recreation Park. Registrations will remain open until all divisions are at capacity. Register online or call (818) 898-1290 for more information.

**Mission City Baseball Spring Season**

It's time for MISSION CITY BASEBALL! Opening day for Spring 2025 was held on Saturday, March 8, 2025. The league is open to youth ages 3-14, and is a great program for both beginners and advanced players. For more information call (818) 898-1290.

**Volunteer Coaches Needed for Youth Sports**

The Recreation and Community Service Department is always on the lookout for volunteer coaches for the sports programs. For the safety of participants and volunteers, interested individuals must undergo a background check (cost covered by the City) and complete online sport-specific trainings prior to being assigned. Volunteers also receive registration discounts which are effective once all requirements are met. For more information on how to become a volunteer call (818) 898-1290.

**Lopez Adobe Tours**

Tours of the Lopez Adobe has resumed. For private or special tour requests, please call the Recreation and Community Services Department office at (818) 898-1290.

**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 current fiscal year 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.