



SAN FERNANDO

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO PARKS, WELLNESS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 18, 2025

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 J. Cuellar called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Administrative Assistant, Linda Bowden-
Moreno, called the roll call.

The following persons were recorded as present:

PRESENT:

Chair Julie Cuellar, Vice Chair Natasha Sanchez-Brooks, Commissioner Erica Friend, and
Commissioner Christian Garcia

ABSENT:

Commissioner Flor Sanchez

ALSO PRESENT:

Director of Recreation and Community Services Department Julio Salcedo, San Fernando Police
Department Commander CJ Chiasson, Recreation Supervisor Maribel Perez, Administrative
Assistant Linda Bowden-
Moreno and Office Clerk, Tiffany Hernandez

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Chair Cuellar

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Cuellar proposed to approve the agenda for the December 18, 2025 Parks, Wellness and
Recreation Commission special meeting. Commissioner Garcia seconded the motion. By
consensus, the motion carried with the following roll call vote:

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AYES: Chair Cuellar, Vice Chair Sanchez-Brooks, Commissioner Erica Friend, and Commissioner Christian Garcia

NAYS:

ABSENT: Commissioner Flor Sanchez

ABSTAIN:

PRESENTATIONS

None

PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Christian Garcia motioned to approve the Consent Calendar approving the Minutes of the October 9, 2025, Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission regular meeting.

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

AYES: Chair Cuellar, Vice Chair Sanchez-Brooks, Commissioner Erica Friend, and Commissioner Christian Garcia

NAYS

ABSENT: Commissioner Flor Sanchez

ABSTAIN:

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

2. SAN FERNANDO POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE ON PARK ACTIVITY– SFPD Commander CJ Chiasson provided the quarterly parks crime report update on park activities and safety measures,

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including crime statistics and enforcement actions across multiple San Fernando parks. Crime reported ranged from citations to traffic collisions. Commander Chaisson responded to questions from the Commission and noted that the Police Department conducts daily patrols of parks, including foot patrols.

3. INFORMATIONAL UPDATE ON THE COLLABORATION WITH THE WILD HORSE FOUNDATION

RCS Department Director Julio Salcedo provided an update on the MOU with The Wild Horse Foundation, aimed at securing services for the Puig House at Pioneer Park. Despite some communication challenges, the city is collaborating with the Foundation. The Puig House, or Family Resource Center, will serve the community by offering Early Head Start programming, including early communication support, hearing assessments, and individual and group therapy.

Chair Cuellar asked for clarification regarding the MOU, which also mentions support for the San Fernando National Little League. She noted that the contract is set to expire next year and expressed concern that the MOU may be misleading. Chair Cuellar also asked if there is a solution to the league's concerns about field usage.

Julio Salcedo explained that the MOU focuses on the Puig House and its programming, while all league-related issues are tied to ongoing maintenance at Recreation Park. Public Works recommends that fields cannot be opened to the public during maintenance due to liability concerns.

RCS Supervisor Maribel Perez added that The Wild Horse Foundation allowed children to use the field for one season and also hosted food distributions during COVID-19. The Commission and support staff continued to discuss concerns and expectations.

4. DISCUSS CONCERNS REPORTED BY THE SAN FERNANDO NATIONAL LITTLE LEAGUE

RCS Department Director Julio Salcedo revisited concerns raised at a previous meeting and informed the Commission that the fields are currently unsafe for use. Efforts were made to identify alternative fields, including those operated by LAUSD. Grant opportunities were also presented to the San Fernando National Little League.

Recreation Supervisor Maribel Perez added that the large field at Las Palmas Park cannot accommodate the size requirements of the farm team. An alternative option was proposed to better accommodate the team's dimensions. Vice Chair Sanchez-Brooks suggested additional alternatives, including exploring parks outside of the city and the possibility of the city providing a bus to transport the team.

Julio Salcedo provided an update on maintenance at Recreation Park, including details of the filtration project.

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5. DISCUSS MULTIPLE TOPICS WITH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE

This item was tabled to a future meeting to discuss the status of the following items:

- a. Update on adding plants to the existing pots along Maclay St. to attract hummingbirds
- b. Adding shade sails and repairing exercise equipment at Recreation Park
- c. Adding lighting to Recreation Park and Pioneer Park
- d. Status of the ground cover at Recreation Park

6. CESAR E. CHAVEZ MEMORIAL RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATE- RCS Department Director

Julio Salcedo informed the Commission that walkthroughs have been conducted. One issue identified was non-functioning lighting due to copper theft, and protective measures are currently being developed to address this concern. Pueblo y Salud is working in coordination with the City to replace the stolen plaques. In addition, the organization is planning a César Chávez March to take place sometime next year.

At this time, Mr. Salcedo answered various questions from the commission.

7. DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES UPDATE- Staff provided updates on various community programs and events, including holiday events and activities, youth sports, and a new city email domain. Staff members were recognized for their efforts in organizing events and supporting the community. Upcoming sports programs for spring 2026 were announced, and the conversation ended with holiday wishes and appreciation for staff and commissioners' contributions throughout the year.

STAFF COMMUNICATION

Staff thanked commissioners for their work and input throughout the year and also recognized staff.

COMMISSIONER UPDATES/REQUESTS TO AGENDIZE ITEM FOR A FUTURE MEETING

Commissioner Garcia inquired about a youth soccer program in the City and had questions pertaining to the outreach efforts of the upcoming Homeless Connect Day event.

Commissioner Sanchez-Brooks also had questions regarding outreach to the local businesses for the Homeless Connect Day event coming up next month.

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Commissioner Friend inquired about the status of city-wide signage containing the QR code. Staff advised city-wide signage falls under the purview of the Public Works Department. Chair Cuellar will address this item at the next Transportation and Safety Commission meeting.

Commissioner Garcia addressed concerns about a fallen sign at a trolley stop at Pioneer Park.

Chair Cuellar thanked staff for the wonderful events and programs offered to the community.

Chair Cuellar requested an update from the Wild Horse Foundation on the items that were promised in the MOU with the City. RCS Department Director, Julio Salcedo will provide an update at the next meeting.

JANUARY AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Update on the Wild Horse Foundation
2. Update on San Fernando National Little League concerns
3. Update from Public Works Department representative
4. Cesar E. Chavez Memorial Renovation Project update

ADJOURNMENT

Chair J. Cuellar adjourned the Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission meeting at 7:32 p.m.