



THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2024
701 East Carson Street

East Wing Activity Room
6:30 PM

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION AGENDA

Commissioners

Chair Jesus-Alex Cainglet | Vice-Chair Shannon Lawrence | Secretary Kim Cortado | Cesar Dahilig | Walter Gonzalez | Kisa Hilliard | Edwina Hunter | DeAnthony Langston | Oscar Ramos

Alternates

Kelvin Brown (Alternate 1) | Jo Jacqueline Johnson (Alternate 2) | Rudolfo Brillantes (Alternate 3)

Staff

Michael Whittiker, Director | Tim Grierson, Recreation Superintendent | Bobby Grove, Community Services Superintendent | Modesto Bolanos, Park Maintenance Superintendent
| Kimberly Madrigal, Administrative Secretary

PUBLIC INFORMATION

"In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call the City Clerk's office at 310-952-1720 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting." (Government Code Section 54954.2)

Any members of the public wishing to provide public comment for the items on the agenda may do so as follows:

- 1. Email: You can email comments to p&rcommission@carsonca.gov no later than 3:00 p.m. before the meeting. Please identify the Agenda item you wish to address in your comments. Your comments will be read into the record.*
- 2. Telephone: You can record your comments at (310) 847-3581 no later than 3:00 p.m. before the meeting. Please identify the Agenda item you wish to address in your comments. Your comments will be read into the record.*

CALL TO ORDER

This meeting was called to order by Chair Cainglet at 6:33 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Jesus Alex Cainglet, Secretary Kim Cortado, Commissioners Cesar Dahilig, Walter Gonzalez, Kisa Hilliard (entered 6:35 PM), Edwina Hunter (entered 6:43 PM), DeAnthony Langston, Kelvin Brown, Rudolfo Brillantes

Excused: Commissioners Shannon Lawrence, Oscar Ramos and Jaqueline Johnson were excused on a motion of Commissioner Gonzalez, seconded by Commissioner Brown, and unanimously carried by a vote of 7-0.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Gonzalez.

PRESENTATIONS

1. 2024-039-PRCAC

PARK MAINTENANCE STANDARDS: COMMUNITY SERVICES/RECREATION/PARK MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Superintendents Freddy Loza and Kirby Jones, and Community Services Superintendents Modesto Bolanos and Bobby Grove, presented the progress of their current project, the Park Maintenance Standards. The departments are working together to create a document that outlines areas of the park facilities and details the way they should be maintained. This document ensures quality parks by basing designs on aesthetics, function, economics, and health and safety. Overall, it creates a better environment for residents and visitors. Some of the different areas that are addressed in the standards are playground equipment, lighting, irrigation, grading, drainage, and parking areas.

Commissioner Brillantes: Does that mean all parks will look the same?

Superintendent Loza: No, each park will still have their own theme, but we will standardize basic elements like soap dispensers, trash cans, light bulbs, etc.

Secretary Cortado: Will restrooms receive upgrades? Some of the toilets must be replaced. For instance, some restrooms are too small for seniors and their walkers.

Superintendent Loza: Yes, if there are any specifics please share with our team and we will investigate the issues. We are aware of the narrow restrooms; we conducted an ADA study and are moving forward with updates.

Superintendent Loza explained to the Commissioners that there are currently multiple projects being executed. Three parks and the Community Center will be receiving upgrades. Electric Vehicle chargers are currently being installed at Anderson Park and the Community Center.

Commissioner Brillantes: Will the EV chargers be free?

Bobby: No, unfortunately not. Users will need to set up an account.

Director Michael Whittiker added that the Public Works and Community Services Superintendents and Directors will meet to discuss all projects (improving EOC). A list with all pertinent construction projects and estimated dates will be shared in the next Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts meeting.

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS

The public may address the Commission on any matters within the jurisdiction of the Carson Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission or on any items on the agenda of the Carson Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission, prior to any action taken on the agenda. Speakers are limited to no more than three minutes, speaking once. Oral communications will be limited to one (1) hour unless extended by order of the Chair with the approval of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission.

CONSENT CALENDAR

2. 2024-035-PRCAC

**JUNE 27, 2024, PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Attachments: [June 27 , 2024, PRCAC Minutes](#)

3. 2024-037-PRCAC

JUNE 2024 MONTHLY REPORT

Attachments: June 2024 Monthly Report.pdf

4. 2024-038-PRCAC

**AUGUST PROGRAMS AT-A-GLANCE-THE SPOTLIGHT-PARK
ASSIGNMENTS.PDF**

Attachments: August 2024 Programs At-A-Glance-The Spotlight-Park
Assignments.pdf

Action: It was moved to approve Item 2 on the Consent Calendar on a motion of Secretary Cortado, seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez and unanimously carried by a vote of 9-0.

Regarding Item 3, 2024-037, Commissioner Gonzalez inquired about how the city gauges air quality. He also asked why the pickleball tournament was moved from July 26 to September. Regarding girls soccer, he asked is the league would be girls versus girls. What would happen if we weren't able to gather enough interest? Will they merge with the boys? What's the capacity for summer day camp? Why is there inconsistent programming at the parks, for example, some aquatics classes are offered at some pools but not all.

Director Whittiker: The air quality is measured through AQMD; they are affiliated with all municipalities and parks in California. They report to Public Works and Economic Development regularly. You may ask the council person at the next townhall meeting at Perry Mini Park.

In most cases, if an event is moved that far back, it is because they were able to secure enough players. They

continue to market the event and recruit more players- additional information will be gathered from Superintendent Tim Grierson or Adult Sports Coordinator Matt Jordan.

We have tried to create a girls soccer league for many years now, but it hasn't been successful. This year we will have a girls-only soccer league, along with flag football. If we can't gather enough players, it may get canceled. However, we currently have three teams, and we only need four to start a league. We may also create smaller teams of nine versus nine.

The capacity for our Summer Day Camp program is different based on each site and square footage of the room, regardless of the park size. The larger the room, the more children that can be enrolled.

We try to maximize our pools as much as possible and spread activities throughout the city. We try to conduct more adult classes in the morning and leave the pools open for the children later in the day when they are out of school. Most programs are the same but there are some classes that are only offered at certain parks. Additionally, aquatic centers have different classes because the amenities are different.

Secretary Cortado: Regarding rental revenue, why does *external* have a high revenue compared to internal?

Superintendent Bobby Grove: Internals revenue comes from internal programming, like senior services. We still show they are being rented, but there is no fee associated with it.

Action: It was moved to Receive and File Item 3 on the Consent Calendar on a motion of Commissioner Gonzalez, seconded by Commissioner Hilliard and unanimously carried by a vote of 9-0.

Regarding Item 4 on the Consent Calendar, Secretary Cortado thanked Carson staff for ensuring the August Programs-At-A-Glance is correct.

Action: It was moved to Receive and File Item 4 on the Consent Calendar on a motion of Commissioner Gonzalez, seconded by Secretary Cortado and carried by a vote of 9-0.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

DISCUSSION

5. 2024-036-PRCAC

CITY OF LONG BEACH KIDS ZONE ORDINANCE

Director Whittiker introduced the discussion topic by stating that Chair Cainglet brought this ordinance to the Commission's attention and requested to have it agendaized. The City of Carson is possibly looking to adopt this ordinance similar to the one in the City of Long Beach.

The two most prevalent reasons for this ordinance to be adopted is to manage unhoused individual sleeping at the playgrounds and to deter pedophiles from being near the children. With a policy in place, police would be able to cite and remove them. The director from Long Beach Parks and Recreation explained that it has been successful and has allowed for easier removal of individuals. Regarding the unhoused population, Public Safety already works with them to provide assistance if they want it. We will move forward with our city attorney to review the information and then bring it to council to make it an official ordinance. Taking these steps will allow us to get ahead of any future issues. Once completed, we report back to the commission. The commission can vote on it, then it can be taken to council in September.

Commissioner Gonzalez affirmed that Chair Cainglet and Director Whittiker have his full support. Commissioner Brillantes asked if this ordinance means that mean that any unhoused cannot be at the park at all. Director Whittiker clarified that this is not the case. Parks are public facilities and are open to everyone. They can still choose to be in other areas of the park. What it does mean is that they cannot loiter in areas meant for children, a protected area.

Chair Cainglet questioned whether an offense would be considered a misdemeanor or a felony. Director Whittiker answered that he is not sure and will have the city attorney address this.

Secretary Cortado confirmed her support for this ordinance.

Commissioner Hilliard asked if this applies to adults over the age of 18. Director Whittiker confirmed that it did apply to all adults 18 and over.

Chair Cainglet inquired if there will be any major changes to the park other than signage. Director Whittiker assured that there will not be any other major change other than signage. This ordinance will allow signs to be posted but it will mainly serve as a tool to help us remove potentially dangerous individuals from areas for children.

Action: It was moved to Receive and File Item 5 on a motion of Commissioner Gonzalez, seconded by Commissioner Brown and carried by a vote of 9-0.

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

The public may at this time address the members of the Carson Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission on any matters within the jurisdiction of the Carson Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission. No action may be taken on non-agendized items except as authorized by law. Speakers are requested to limit their comments to no more than three minutes each, speaking once.

COMMISSIONER'S ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PARK REPORT

Commissioner Langston/Del Amo: Thanked the department for the commission recognition on the Annual Report. He stated that he is constantly trying to find ways to make the park better. He asked if installing a rubber track would be possible at Del Amo Park and if it would interfere with the rain. He is pleased to hear that there will be hot water at the park soon.

Commissioner Brillantes/Carriage Crest: Mentioned that supervisors and staff at Carriage Crest Park are happy because the visitors are enjoying the amenities. They just completed a 30-person baseball event. Commissioner Brillantes showed concerns for the fact that copper wires are being stolen all around the parks. He inquired is there are any measures we can take to prevent it.

Commissioner Hunter/Dominguez: Asked for extra toilet paper and soap in the restrooms. The security cameras near the snack bar are currently not working. The water bottle refill station has yet to be repaired.

Commissioner Gonzalez: Thanked Commissioner Langston for the rubber track suggestion at Del Amo Park and think it is an excellent idea.

Commissioner Brown: Is starting to see many more families at the park. He thinks the park director, Mickie Sanchez, is making a positive impact.

Commissioner Dahilig: Stated that he received multiple complaints from Dolphin Park. The courts are in great need of repair. He asked if it would be possible to resurface them.

Commissioner Hilliard: Commented about a meeting regarding bikes in May but was hoping to suggest a walking path for Del Amo. Inquired if the commissioners would receive updates on future park renovations like the one at Mills Park. She is interested to see how the playground will look and likes the aesthetics of Long Beach parks. She stated that there is very little for children under 5 to take part in, like classes and programs. While there are a few classes during the week, there are none on the weekends. In one of the groups, they mentioned that there is a hole on the court, and it should be covered with plywood. She inquired over teen classes available over the summer when teenagers are out of school and have a lot of free time.

Secretary Cortado: Visited Calas Park a several times this past month. The popcorn fundraiser was a success and allowed for more kids activities at the baseball banquet. The next car show will be held on September 29; it is now in its 11th anniversary. The walkway near the basketball courts and baseball diamond/snack bar is unstable and must be fixed as soon as possible. The exposed tree roots are very unsafe and a tripping hazard. She asked if it was possible to use city grant funds to have buses for summer camp excursions. She stated that the Samoan Heritage Day Event was excellent and is growing larger every year. Regarding Active Net, she wondered why parents must come in person and verify their identity before signing their children up for classes. Commissioner Cortado announced that the next Townhall meeting and Sheriff Community Night is August 7.

Chair Cainglet: Thanked the Community Services Division for assisting in setting up the senior check-in. He also thanked the entire department for the annual report. He suggested we send a copy to Commissioner Ramos, as he may be out for some time. He thanked the staff for their continued dedication.

STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Administrative Secretary, Kimberly Madrigal: Nothing to report.

Park Maintenance Superintendent, Modesto Bolanos:

- Gophers: This has been an issue at several parks. An evaluation for bids was completed and we may have a contract in August. This will create a consistent relationship with a pest control company.
- Laser Leveling: In the next 3 months, several parks will be laser leveled.
- Dominguez Park: The tennis courts will be renovated, which includes a new fence and resurfacing of the courts. One of those courts will be converted to a pickleball court.
- Irrigation Technician: The second Irrigation Technician will be hired soon.
- Pickleball: Several courts around the city will be resurfaced. The goal is to have a pickleball court in every

district.

Community Services Superintendent, Bobby Grove:

- Event Center Coiling Walls: out to bid.
- Active Net: We require parents to verify their children by bringing in a birth certificate as a result of many registering others as members of their family without being so. This practice has helped us solve these issues.
- Transportation for Youth: The city cannot use busses obtained with Prop A or C money. The cost to rent a bus increased drastically, making it difficult to transport youth to excursions regularly.
- Cajun Blue White Linen Event: Taking place September 7 in the City Hall parking lot. Ticket can be purchased on active net. General admission tickets are \$65.
- Mariachi Fest: Being held in the Event Center; hope to see everyone there.

Landscaping and Building Maintenance Superintendent, Freddy Loza:

- Water Heaters: Many of those issues have been addressed.
- Lighting at Carriage Crest: This park does have some vandalism, but not as much as other cities. The upgraded lighting will have anti-theft and anti-vandalism mechanisms put in place to alleviate some of the issues.
- Toilet Paper and Soap: Will keep a closer eye on it. Unfortunately, there are some issues of theft regarding it. If it continues to be a problem, we might have to install an anti-theft mechanism.
- Dominguez Water Bottle Refill Station: Will send a plumber to the fix issue.
- Stevenson Playground: Will address the issue and remove it. Unsure as to why the plywood is there; it is sometimes used to deter homeless from sleeping on it.

Commissioner Gonzalez exited meeting at 8:23 pm and reentered at 8:26 pm.

Community Services/Recreation/Park Maintenance Superintendent, Michael Whittiker:

- Del Park Track: The department would love to install a track. However, the issue is the surface it is built on. The City of Carson does not own the land; we are given permission to use it for our park. We can possibly look into a building a facility nearby.
- Real Run: Going great this year, thank you for your involvement. Working to get ac in there, so we will have it for the next real run event.
- Outdoor Basketball Courts: We are working with Commissioner Langston with this. Because small children play on larger courts, extensions were added to allow smaller kids to play. We are looking to abandon this equipment and instead purchase adjustable basketball courts that they can lock in place. Extensions can be dangerous and fall on children.
- Working with Clippers and LA County Parks and Recreation director to obtain more information about how we can get the courts donated. If this is not possible, we will go to council and ask for money. These courts are important because of the safety of the children.
- Security Cameras at Dominguez: Cameras here are currently in the first phase. 1: Install camera. 2: Ensure cameras are recording the correct areas. 3: Go back and correct camera placement. The entire project should be complete by the end of March next year. These cameras help us catch important information such as license plates and faces of criminals.
- Walking Path at Carriage Crest: Will work with Modesto to complete and each district will have one.

- Smart Start Program: Class for toddlers that is non-competitive.
- Teen Programming: The Youth Commission will meet for the first time in 4 years next month. One of their goals will be to bring ideas of ways to keep youth involved in the community.
- Busses: We cannot use Prop A funded busses if the trip is not free and open to a select few.
- Michelle and Barrack Obama Sports Complex: Located in Baldwin Park. Would like the team to visit and find inspiration for our parks. We might be able to mimic some things for the Carriage Crest upgrade. The Administrative Secretary will send out a request for schedules.
- Special Project: Will create a list of projects we can accomplish as a commission. We should strive to complete 2-3 projects per year.

ADJOURNMENT

This Board/Commission/Committee is subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act. Among other things, the Brown Act requires that the Board/Commission/Committees agenda be posted at least 72 hours in advance of each meeting and that the public be allowed to comment on agenda items before the Board/ Commission/ Committee and items not on the Board/Commission/Committee agenda but are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board/ Commission/ Committee. The Board/Commission/Committee may limit public comments to a reasonable amount of time, generally three (3) minutes per person.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM on a motion of Commissioner Langston, seconded by Secretary Cortado, and unanimously carried by a vote of 9-0.