

**AGENDA  
CITY OF WHITTIER  
PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 13230 PENN STREET  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2019, 6:00 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. ROLL CALL**

Jeff Brauckmann, Chair  
Don Mrla, Vice Chair  
Chris Hardeman, Commissioner  
Kevin Kennedy, Commissioner  
Delia Morales, Commissioner  
Ray Wong, Commissioner

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The public is invited to address Park, Recreation and Community Services Commission regarding any item of business, with the exception of the public hearing items, or any matter within the body's subject matter jurisdiction. Speakers must limit their comments to three minutes. Pursuant to State law, the Commission cannot take action or express a consensus of approval or disapproval on any oral communications which do not appear on the printed agenda.

**5. STAFF REPORTS**

**5.A. Approval of Minutes**

Recommendation: Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 21, 2019.

**5.B. Update on City of Whittier Homeless Plan Implementation**

Recommendation: Receive and file update on City of Whittier Homeless Plan implementation.

**5.C. Community Services Division Presentation**

Recommendation: Receive and file the Community Services Division's presentation focusing on Youth Services.

**6. SECRETARY COMMENTS**

**7. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND CONFERENCE REPORTS**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Disability-related services are available to enable persons with a disability to participate in this meeting, consistent with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Spanish interpreters are also available. For information or to request services, please contact the Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Department at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting at (562) 567-9400.

The agenda packet is available three days before the meeting in the PRCS Department at City Hall (13230 Penn Street), Whittier Central Library (7344 Washington Avenue) and East Whittier Branch Library (10537 Santa Gertrudes Avenue). Additionally, the agenda packet can be viewed on the City's website. Materials distributed to the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission within 72 hours of the Commission meeting are available for public inspection in the PRCS Department's Office.

Los servicios relacionados con la discapacidad están disponibles para permitir que las personas con discapacidad participen en esta reunión, de conformidad con la Ley Federal de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades de 1990. También hay intérpretes en español disponibles. Para obtener información o para solicitar servicios, comuníquese con el Departamento de Recreación y Parques al Servicio a la Comunidad al menos de 24 horas antes de la reunión al (562) 567-9400.

El paquete de la agenda está disponible tres días antes de la reunión con El Departamento de Recreación y Parques al Servicio a la Comunidad en el Ayuntamiento (13230 Penn Street), Biblioteca Central de Whittier (7344 Washington Avenue) y Biblioteca sucursal del este de Whittier (10537 Santa Gertrudes Avenue). Además, el paquete de la agenda se puede ver en el sitio web de la Ciudad. Los materiales distribuidos al Comisión de parques, recreación y servicios comunitarios dentro de las 72 horas de la reunión del Concejo Municipal están disponibles para inspección pública en la con El Departamento de Recreación y Parques al Servicio a la Comunidad.

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing agenda was posted in accordance with the applicable legal requirements. Regular and Adjourned Regular meeting agendas may be amended up to 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September 2019.

/s/ Sheryl Dugas

---

Sheryl Dugas, Administrative Secretary



# Agenda Report

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission

---

**Date:** September 18, 2019

**To:** Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission

**From:** Greg Alaniz, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

**Subject:** Approval of Minutes

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 21, 2019.

## **BACKGROUND**

None

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff prepared draft minutes and hereby submits the minutes for Commission's approval.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 21, 2019

**MINUTES  
CITY OF WHITTIER  
PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 13230 PENN STREET  
AUGUST 21, 2019 – 6:00 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Vice Chair Mrla called the regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Whittier City Hall, 13230 Penn Street, Whittier, California.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Don Mrla, Vice Chair  
Kevin Kennedy, Commissioner  
Delia Morales, Commissioner  
Ray Wong, Commissioner

**ABSENT:** Jeff Brauckmann, Chair  
Chris Hardeman, Commissioner

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Greg Alaniz, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services  
Sheryl Dugas, Administrative Secretary

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Vice Chair Mrla led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**5. STAFF REPORTS**

**5. A Approval of Minutes**

It was moved by Commissioner Morales, seconded by Commissioner Kennedy, and carried 4 – 0 (absent: Chair Brauckmann and Commissioner Hardeman) to approve the Minutes of the July 17, 2019 Regular Meeting.

**5. B Art in Public Places – York Field Sports Complex Project – Request for Proposal**

Secretary Alaniz reported that the Art in Public Places Advisory Committee (AIPP) and Cultural Arts Commission have been tasked with bringing art pieces to the community. One project currently underway is “Solar Tree” which will be placed on the Greenway Trail, off Philadelphia Street. The creation of the art piece is approximately 75% complete. In the planning stages is another art piece to commemorate the establishment of “Welcome Home Vietnam

Veterans Day”. This piece will include honoring Mr. Jose Ramos, himself a Vietnam Veteran, who was instrumental in the creation of the “day”. The location for this piece has not yet been determined. Secretary Alaniz presented Commission with the Request for Proposal (RFP) for an art piece, which will be installed at York Field. The Art in Public Places Masterplan has identified several sites citywide, including “parks”, for consideration in the placement of art works. York Field was proposed due to its high visibility and heavy use. The location within the facility selected is in an existing raised planter bed inside the main entry gates. The RFP will be presented to City Council on August 27, 2019 for their approval and direction to proceed with the project. Once approved, the RFP will be sent to the list of prequalified artists, proposals will be submitted to the AIPP for review, then to the Cultural Arts Commission for recommendation to City Council. The entire process takes approximately 14 to 16 months. Commissioner Morales questioned the funding for these projects. Secretary Alaniz noted that funding comes through the commercial development project process. Developers can choose to install an art piece as part of their project, or paying a percentage of the project value into the AIPP fund. If the developer decides to install the piece themselves, the proposed art piece must go through the AIPP, Cultural Arts Commission, and City Council approval process. An example of this is the mural painted on the Orchard Supply Hardware building as part of the development on Whittier Boulevard at La Serna Drive. That particular piece went through the review process and the artist incorporated the City’s requests for revision into the final product.

It was moved by Commissioner Kennedy, seconded by Commissioner Morales, and carried 4 – 0 (absent: Chair Brauckmann and Commissioner Hardeman) to receive and file the update on the Art in Public Places – York Field Sports Complex Project – Request for Proposal.

#### **5. C Lee Owens Park Renovation Project**

Secretary Alaniz presented Commission with an update on the Lee Owens Park Renovation Project. The Architect has returned 90% complete plans, which incorporated Commission’s recommendations. The north side of the park will match the design concepts of the original portion of the park. There will be two play areas, one swing set, a new splash pad, and a building to house the “pool” equipment. The completed plans are anticipated to be delivered in September, then the project moves to the Request for Proposal phase. Secretary Alaniz noted that there are two Ficus trees on Greenleaf, next to the park entrance, and crosswalk that are of concern. The tree roots have raised the sidewalk in several places to the extent that the sidewalk no longer meets Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations. It has been determined that the roots cannot be removed as the cuts would be too close to the tree trunks, thereby compromising the stability of the trees. Also, the use of an “air spade” for further investigation and inspection of the roots is not suitable as that would also compromise the trees’ stability. The plans for the park expansion project

include the planting of 15-25 new trees within the park. Commissioner Wong questioned whether a “stage” area will be included in the expansion of the park. Secretary Alaniz responded that no stage will be added since this type of feature tends to encourage people to stay long term. He also noted that he is recommending the entire park be fenced and closed to the public during the construction project for safety. Commissioner Morales questioned the timeline for the project. Secretary Alaniz noted that completion is anticipated for early spring.

It was moved by Commissioner Wong, seconded by Vice Chair Mrla, and carried 4 – 0 (absent: Chair Brauckmann and Commissioner Hardeman) to receive and file the update on the Lee Owens Park Renovation Project.

## **6. SECRETARY’S COMMENTS**

Secretary Alaniz announced that winter swim lessons have begun, and that he is very proud of staff and all that was accomplished this summer. He also advised Commission that the Parks and Tree Maintenance Divisions are going to be eliminated and the work contracted out.

Secretary Alaniz advised Commission of the following coming events:

- As part of the “Whittier Nights at the Hollywood Bowl” program, on Saturday, August 24 a group will be going to the Hollywood Bowl to see Pink Martini perform. The bus will leave City Hall promptly at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$48 each, including transportation.
- The Senior Luau dinner and dance will take place on Saturday, August 30, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., at the Uptown Senior Center. There will be food, dancing, and entertainment.
- The final “Whittier Nights at the Hollywood Bowl” trip for this season, will take place on Saturday, September 14. Earth, Wind and Fire will be performing. This event is sold out, with three busses making the trip.
- The Whittier Community Foundation is holding their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual “Boots, Beer and BBQ” fundraising event on Saturday, September 21, 6:00 p.m., at the Whittier Quad. Tickets are \$35 each. Funds raised are going towards the Firefighters’ tribute art piece.
- Whittier YouthBuild is holding a Whittier Pride Festival at Central Park on Saturday, September 28, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. This is a “Special Event”, not a City event.

Commissioner Morales questioned if KaBOOM is planning to do a project at J.G. Whittier Park. Secretary Alaniz responded that the City is hoping this will happen.

Commissioner Kennedy questioned whether any PRCS Administrative staff positions will be eliminated. Secretary Alaniz responded that at this time, the Park Manager and two Park Maintenance Supervisor positions will be eliminated, and the Tree Maintenance Supervisor will be going to the Public Works Department to manage the tree maintenance contract. Commissioner Kennedy noted that the proposed sales tax increase won't event cover the budget shortfall.

Secretary Alaniz announced the arrival of the newest Supervisor of Senior Services, Alyssa Rico. She has a Master's Degree in Public Administration and lives in Downey. She has some great ideas for new programs. Commissioner Morales questioned whether the Special Olympics program will continue. Secretary Alaniz stated that it will.

## **7. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Wong announced the upcoming celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the moon landing, on Saturday October 12, 2019, from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at the Whittwood Branch Library. There will be a large display of space program memorabilia. The public, School Districts, and others groups have been invited to participate.

Commissioner Kennedy expressed his disappointment regarding the staff layoffs, that it is an unfortunate situation. He also commented on the ongoing issues of the homeless staying in the parks, and how hard staff works on solving the related problems. He stated that the community needs to be made aware of what all the City is doing. He noted that he has heard concerns about the proposed location for the shelter, and that people think that area was selected because it is a "low socio-economic" area. Secretary Alaniz stated that Community Services Manager, Martin Browne, has been tasked with working on this issue and takes these duties very seriously.

Vice Chair Mrla commented that the response to reporting graffiti on the 24/7 app is very quick.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chair Mrla adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Approved and adopted by the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission  
on \_\_\_\_\_.

---

Greg Alaniz, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services



# Agenda Report

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission

---

**Date:** September 18, 2019  
**To:** Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission  
**From:** Greg Alaniz, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services  
**Subject:** Update on City of Whittier Homeless Plan Implementation

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file update on City of Whittier Homeless Plan implementation.

## **BACKGROUND**

At the July 24, 2018 City Council Meeting, Council adopted the City of Whittier Homeless Plan.

The homeless plan provides a framework, and establishes four goals with supporting action items, for preventing and combatting homelessness over the next three years. The plan includes key supporting actions the City has undertaken to improve existing services and programs, increase service access, identify and strengthen local and regional partnerships, and provide outreach and information to the community regarding homelessness. The plan includes ideas from the two consultants who worked on the plan, Whittier Police Department, Whittier First Day, Social Services Commissioners, and comments from the community meetings, community surveys, and stakeholder interviews. The plan recognizes the need for additional resources to address the homeless issues in the City, and to provide information to the community on the work being done. Metrics for each goal have been set, as appropriate, in coordination with the County and homeless prevention experts over the course of the life of the plan.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff will update Commission on City of Whittier Homeless Plan implementation.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

None





# Agenda Report

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission

---

**Date:** September 18, 2019

**To:** Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission

**From:** Greg Alaniz, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

**Subject:** Community Services Division Presentation

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file the Community Services Division's presentation focusing on Youth Services.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Community Services, Youth Services Division, oversees various programs benefitting the youth of Whittier.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff has prepared a presentation focusing on Youth Services programming. This includes the popular Whittier Youth Network (WYN) Club program, which is a drop-in recreation program available during the after-school hours at several school sites, and during the summer months at various park locations. They also oversee the Summer Day Camp, Students Run Whittier, Students in Government, and the VolunTEEN programs.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

None