



Agenda Item A.2
CONSENT CALENDAR
Meeting Date: January 14, 2026

TO: Chair and Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: JoAnne Plummer, Neighborhood Services Director

CONTACT: Justin Wilkins, Parks and Recreation Manager

SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Manager Report

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file a report regarding recent activities and initiatives in the Parks and Recreation Division.

BACKGROUND

The Parks and Recreation division is responsible for a variety of park-related Capital Improvement Projects (CIP's), the daily operation of the Goleta Community Center (GCC), supports a variety of CIP's at the GCC, the facilitation of all facility and park rentals, and a variety of volunteer and recreational programs, among a variety of other administrative and managerial functions and roles.

DISCUSSION

PARK CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Mathilda Park Improvement Project

Construction was authorized to begin on January 5, 2026, however, due to the recent storms and wet conditions at the construction site, the contractor will be adjusting the schedule. As of this publication, the revised construction commencement date is still pending, however construction is still anticipated to be completed by March 2026.

GOLETA COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECTS (GCC)

GCC CIP – 9127(a) – Dining Room Skylight Replacement Project

The project is anticipated for competitive bidding by the end of January 2026, with an anticipated contract award in March 2026. Construction activities and work will not

begin until after the annual State of the City and Senior Expo events occurring towards the end of April 2026. The construction timeframe is currently anticipated to be 90 days, pending final contract award.

CIP – 9127 – Electrical System Replacement Project

Final drawings and cost estimates are anticipated to be delivered to the General Services Department by the end of February 2026, with the project going to City Council for approval to bid thereafter. A contract award and construction timeline will be updated in the coming months.

CIP – 9121 – Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Site Improvements

The original scope of the project included significant improvements to both the interior and exterior of the building incorporated into one construction project. At this time, the plan sets for the exterior work are nearing completion, whereas the interior drawings and plans will take significant more time to complete. As such, it has been decided that this project will exist in two phases.

Phase One – Exterior Improvements:

Improvements to provide ADA access from the west entry of the building, creating new walkways from Hollister Avenue, through the current walkway and the Gazebo, new parking spaces, a new entry ramp, and the replacement of the sewer lateral that services the kitchen. This project is expected to begin in late 2026.

Phase Two – Interior Improvements:

Interior improvements will require considerable structural and historical consideration and review. Changes to doorways and other features to meet current ADA standards will require modification of existing frames and refurbishing of original doors and finishes. Significant asbestos-abatement measures will need to be undertaken and will require large exterior lay-down areas for work and materials. The requirement to utilize a significant area of parking is an additional rationale to move this phase until after the completion of the exterior parking and sidewalk improvements. The interior phase also includes the complete tear-down and remodel of the existing bathrooms to meet standards. General Services is evaluating the interior requirements and working to update the plan-set accordingly. Design completion is anticipated in late 2027.

PARKS AND RECREATION GENERAL UPDATES

Management of Pickleball Program at Goleta Community Center (GCC)

In November of 2025, the Goleta Valley Community Center Organization (GVCC) Board of Directors notified the City of Goleta that, effective January 1, 2026, they would no longer continue to manage the online reservation system or community programming at the pickleball courts located at the rear of the GCC.


City Staff, along with leadership from the GVCC Board, developed a transition plan that focused on continuity in both operations and function to ensure ease of transition for the community. This includes maintaining the current hours, reservation times, rules and procedures. The Parks and Recreation division will maintain the current operations for a period of six (6) months, during which time it will conduct public engagement to determine what, if any, changes should be made to the court's operations to best meet the needs of the community.

Monarch Butterfly Docent Program

The most recent Ellwood Open Space Monarch Survey Results, conducted on December 15, 2025, resulted in the finding of four (4) Monarch Butterfly's. This reflects the continuing downward trend from the high of 20 from the October 31, 2025 counts.

Due to this, the Docent Program did not take place during the 2026 season, but rather, staff are working to develop a modified docent program in conjunction with community partners during the ongoing restoration efforts by the Public Works Department. The team looks forward to resuming the Docent Program in the 2026/2027 western monarch overwintering season.

Approved By:



JoAnne Plummer,
Neighborhood Services Director