



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:

Mathilda Park Improvement Project

The Mathilda Park Improvement Project consists of a playground, irrigation, turf, and walkway renovations to improve park function, drainage, and meet Americans with Disability Act (ADA) requirements. The construction is managed by the Public Works Department, and after an initial start in January 2026, followed by an extended delay due to weather and ground conditions, construction resumed on April 20, 2026, followed by another rain event that closed construction until May 4, 2026. Construction is expected to be completed in June 2026, followed by a 90-day plant establishment period. Based on this timeline, project closeout is estimated to occur in September 2026.

Goleta Train Station Construction & Community Room Rental Operations

The City of Goleta is currently constructing a new train depot facility located at 27 S. La Patera Lane, adjacent to the existing rail platform. The project will transform the current platform stop into a full-service, multi-modal transit hub serving regional rail passengers

and the broader community. The new building is approximately 9,000 square feet and is expected to open in mid- to late-September 2026. The facility is designed to enhance connectivity between rail, local transit, bicycle, and pedestrian networks, while also serving as a civic amenity.

The Goleta Train Station Project (Photos included as Attachment 1) is a \$32 million capital improvement effort funded through a combination of State and local sources, including the California Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program. Key features of the new facility include:

- Indoor waiting areas and public restrooms
- Ticketing and passenger amenities
- Outdoor plazas and covered walkways
- Bicycle parking and improved pedestrian access
- Parking and electric vehicle charging infrastructure
- A dedicated Community Meeting Room

Upon opening of the facility, the Parks and Recreation Division will assume responsibility for the programming, scheduling, and rental management of the Community Meeting Room. This function is consistent with the Division's existing role in managing City facilities, including meeting rooms and event spaces at other City sites. The addition of this new venue will expand the City's inventory of reservable spaces and provide a centrally located facility for community use.

The Community Meeting Room is intended to serve a variety of public and community-serving purposes, including:

- Community meetings and workshops
- Civic engagement and public outreach events
- Classes, seminars, and small group programming
- Rental opportunities for local organizations and residents

Staff anticipate integrating this facility into the City's existing reservation system and policies, with consideration given to:

- Hours of operation aligned with train station activity
- Fee structures consistent with comparable City facilities
- Coordination with transit operations and site security
- Maintenance and custodial needs

In advance of the anticipated September 2026 opening, the Parks and Recreation Division staff, in collaboration with the City Manager's Office will have or plan to:

- Developed operational policies and procedures for the meeting room (Attachment 2)
- Established rental rates and usage guidelines (Attachment 3)

- Coordinate with other City Departments and transit partners
- Integrate the facility into the City's online facility reservation system
- Conduct outreach and marketing materials to inform the public of availability

PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION GENERAL UPDATES

May is Older Americans Month

On May 5, 2026, the City of Goleta's City Council officially recognized May as "Older American's Month" via a proclamation at its normally scheduled meeting. On hand to accept the proclamation was the Parks and Recreation Manager, as well as our Program Technician in charge of Senior Programs, Dori Crolius. In addition to announcing two new on-going activities to the senior programming calendar, weekly Maj Jong and out-door self-guided Tai Chi, the team highlighted the growth of the Senior Program, both in registered members, program offerings and attendance, and provided a re-cap of the programs hallmark event, the very successful 4th Annual Senior Expo.

4th Annual City of Goleta Senior Expo

The City of Goleta Parks and Recreation Division hosted the 4th Annual Senior Expo on April 24th, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Goleta Community Center. This free community event for seniors, family members, caregivers, community providers and volunteers saw over 300 total attendees, and hosted over 45 informational and educational vendors and exhibitors, making it the largest expo to be held. A recap from KEYT news can be found [here](#).

For a monthly calendar of Senior Program events, class descriptions, and additional information, please visit the Parks and Recreation [Senior Program Website](#).

Community Garden Plot Rental Term Update

Staff are updating the Community Garden plot rental agreement to better align with the planting season and gardener's needs. Historically, agreements have been renewed annually from May to May, which corresponded with the garden's original opening. However, based on feedback from current gardeners, this timing does not best support seasonal planting cycles.

Beginning in 2026, rental agreements will shift to an August-to-August renewal term. To facilitate this transition, the current agreement period will be extended through August 2026, at which point the new annual cycle will take effect, and a new twelve-month billing cycle will begin. This adjustment is intended to improve the overall user experience, better support successful planting and harvesting, and respond directly to community input.


Parks and Recreation Staffing Updates

On March 23, 2026 the Parks and Recreation welcomed Garrett Frager in a new role as Department Aide. Reporting to Recreation Supervisor Leonel Mendoza-Diaz, Mr. Frager will support a variety of division tasks and responsibilities, including support in special

event applications, senior programs, and supporting Community Center operations. The position is a 20-hour per week assignment, split between City Hall and the Goleta Community Center.

On April 23rd, 2026 (the day of the Senior Expo!) Leonel Mendoza-Diaz and his wife welcomed their second daughter, Lucia Natalia Mendoza-Diaz. Both mother and baby are doing well, and Leonel will be on leave until June 8th to spend time with his family. In his absence, Mr. Frager has been instrumental in helping support the functions that Mr. Mendoza-Diaz would normally take responsibility for.

Approved By:



JoAnne Plummer,
Neighborhood Services Director

ATTACHMENT 1
GOLETA TRAIN STATION PHOTOS

NO PART OF THIS DOCUMENT IS TO BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED IN ANY FORM OR BY ANY MEANS, ELECTRONIC OR MECHANICAL, INCLUDING PHOTOCOPYING, RECORDING, OR BY ANY INFORMATION STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL SYSTEM, WITHOUT THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE ARCHITECT.



3D EXTERIOR VIEWS



CITY OF GOLETA
PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
1000 W. AVENUE 100, SUITE 100
GOLETA, CA 93023
TEL: 805.435.1000
WWW.GOLETA.CA.GOV

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GOLETA TRAIN DEPOT
37 SOUTH LA PATRINA LANE, GOLETA, CALIF. 93027
CITY OF GOLETA
30' FROM W. AVENUE 100 E. & W. AVENUE 100 W.

3D EXTERIOR VIEW



AG-501
DATE: 07-01-2024
SHEET 04 OF 26



ARCHITECT
PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
1000 W. AVENUE 100, SUITE 100
GOLETA, CA 93023
TEL: 805.435.1000
WWW.GOLETA.CA.GOV

CONFORMED DOCUMENT 07-01-2024



3D INTERIOR VIEWS



City of Goleta
 27500 LAUREL AVE, GOLETA, CA 93025
 (805) 965-2000

GOLETA TRAIN DEPOT
 27500 LAUREL AVE, GOLETA, CA 93025

NO. OF SHEETS	1
TOTAL SHEETS	1
DATE	07-01-2024
PROJECT	GOLETA TRAIN DEPOT
SCALE	AS SHOWN
DESIGNED BY	
CHECKED BY	
DATE	

GOLETA TRAIN DEPOT
 27500 LAUREL AVE, GOLETA, CA 93025
 CITY OF GOLETA
 27500 LAUREL AVE, GOLETA, CA 93025

DATE: 07-01-2024
 PROJECT: GOLETA TRAIN DEPOT
 SCALE: AS SHOWN
 DESIGNED BY: [Signature]
 CHECKED BY: [Signature]



PLUMBING PERMIT
 1.000
 227-3800

AG-502

ISSUED
 REVISIONS
 PERMITS
 07-01-2024



CONFIRMED DOCUMENT 07-01-2024

A B C D E F G H I J K

ATTACHMENT 2

GOLETA TRAIN STATION COMMUNITY ROOM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES



Train Depot Meeting Room

Initial Use Rental Policies

1. Initial Permitted Use

The facility is available currently for meetings, classes, and conference-style rentals only.

The space is **not available** for:

- Parties
- Receptions
- Social celebrations
- Entertainment-based events

Rentals are limited to indoor meeting room use only. Exterior areas are not included in basic rentals.

2. Rental Process (Summary)

1. Initial Inquiry

Interested individuals must submit an inquiry via email, phone, or online form.

2. Availability Confirmation

Staff will confirm availability. A temporary hold may be placed on one date at a time for a limited period.

3. Policy Review

Staff will provide rental policies, fee information, deposit requirements, and cancellation terms.

4. Application Submission

A completed rental application is required, including event details and estimated attendance.

5. Rental Agreement & Deposit

A signed Facility Rental Agreement and required non-refundable reservation fee/deposit must be submitted to secure the date.

6. Final Payment

Full payment is due one (1) month prior to the rental date unless otherwise specified. Rentals booked within that timeframe require full payment at contract signing.

7. Pre-Event Coordination

Staff may contact the renter prior to the event to confirm logistics and access details.

8. Post-Event Inspection & Deposit Return

Staff will inspect the facility after use. If no damage or excessive cleaning is required, deposits will be returned in accordance with contract terms (typically within 2–4 weeks).

3. Rental Rates

- Weekday rentals are charged on an hourly basis (8:00 am to 9:00 pm)
- Weekend rentals may be offered at a flat day rate (8:00 am to 9:00 pm)
- A non-refundable reservation fee is required to secure a booking.
- Final fee structure will be published separately.

4. Payment & Cancellation Policy

Payment Deadlines

- Full payment is due one (1) month prior to the rental date.
- Rentals booked within one month require full payment at contract signing.

Cancellation Policy

- Cancellations less than 30 days before the event: **No refund.**
- Cancellations more than 30 days before the event: 90% of refundable fees returned (non-refundable reservation fee retained).
- Exceptions may be granted by the Department Director or designee.

5. Food & Alcohol

- Alcohol is **not permitted at any time** without prior written consent and approval from the Parks and Recreation Manager or their designee.
- Light refreshments are permitted for meetings and classes.

Light refreshments include:

- Pre-packaged snacks
- Pastries
- Fruit
- Coffee and tea
- Bottled beverages

The following are **not permitted** without prior written approval:

- Full meals
- Catering
- Hot food service
- Cooking or heating equipment
- Kitchen use

If expanded food service is approved:

- A higher security/cleaning deposit may apply.
- The renter is responsible for complete cleanup and trash removal.
- Food scraps must be properly disposed of (no food in recycling containers).
- Failure to clean adequately may result in deposit deductions.

6. Audio-Visual (AV) Equipment

- No AV equipment is included in standard rentals.
- AV services may be available for an additional hourly fee.
- AV rentals must include staff support for the duration of use.
- Renters must schedule AV needs in advance.
- The City does not provide laptops or personal devices.
- Renters are responsible for providing specialty cables and adapters.

7. Setup & Breakdown

- Rental time includes setup and cleanup.
- Early access may be granted up to 15 minutes if it does not conflict with other rentals.
- Renters are responsible for setup and breakdown.
- Furniture must be returned to its original configuration.
- No furniture or equipment may be removed from the premises.
- The space must be left in the same condition in which it was received.

8. Decorations

Decorations are not permitted.

No items may be affixed to:

- Walls
- Ceilings
- Windows
- Doors
- Furniture

The following are strictly prohibited:

- Tape or adhesives
- Nails, tacks, staples
- Banners
- Balloons
- Signage
- Confetti or glitter
- Open flames or candles

9. Amplified Sound

Amplified sound must remain at a reasonable meeting volume.

Reasonable meeting volume is defined as:

- Sound consistent with normal conversational speech
- Not audible outside the building
- Not disruptive to surrounding properties

Noise exceeding 60 decibels (dB) at the property line is considered excessive and may result in a warning and/or immediate termination of the rental.

10. Access & Security

- Access will be granted via key pickup or keypad entry (method to be determined).
- Instructions will be provided prior to the rental.
- The renter must be present for the entire rental period.
- The renter is responsible for securing the facility upon departure.
- All doors must be locked and lights turned off.
- Failure to properly secure the building may result in additional fees or loss of rental privileges.

11. Supervision & Responsibility

- The individual listed on the rental agreement must be present at all times.
- For groups primarily composed of minors, one adult supervisor is required for every ten (10) minors.
- Renters are responsible for all guests and any damages incurred.
- The City is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal property.

12. Cleaning & Deposit

- A security/cleaning deposit is required.
- All trash must be removed to designated disposal areas.
- No materials may be left behind.
- If used, all surfaces must be wiped clean.
- Excessive cleaning or damage will result in deposit deductions or additional fees.

13. Business License Requirement

Anyone conducting business within City limits must hold a valid Goleta business license.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Professional instructors
- Consultants
- Trainers
- Equipment rental providers

14. Smoking & Drugs

- Smoking and/or vaping is prohibited on the premises per Goleta Municipal Code 8.15.
- Use or possession of illegal drugs is strictly prohibited.

15. Ongoing Rentals

Ongoing rentals (eight or more bookings within a 12-month period) may be approved under the following conditions:

- Subject to availability (first come, first served).
- May be approved for up to one calendar year.
- Payment is due monthly on the 1st of each month.
- Up to four (4) cancellations within 30 days per calendar year are permitted without penalty.
- Additional late cancellations may be subject to full payment.
- Excessive cancellations may result in contract termination.
- The City reserves the right to relocate or cancel bookings if necessary for facility needs.

ATTACHMENT 3

GOLETA TRAIN STATION COMMUNITY ROOM USER FEES

Goleta Train Depot

Based on Goleta Community Center Fees

#	Fee Name	FY 25/26 Fee Amount Effective 7/1/2025			FY 26/27 Fee Amount Effective 7/1/2026			0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	Fee Notes
		Private	Commercial	Non-Profit	Private	Commercial	Non-Profit					
1	Reservation Fee/Deposit	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	Applied towards event total	
2	Security/Cleaning Deposit- Small Event	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	75 people or less	
3	Security/Cleaning Deposit- Large Event	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	More than 75 people	
4	Additional Staff Hour	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$24.00		
5	Cleaning Fee - Small Event	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	N/A	N/A	\$75.00	Assessed for rentals serving food. 75 people or less. Per cleaning	
6	Cleaning Fee - Large Event	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	N/A	N/A	\$350.00	Assessed for rentals serving food. More than 75 People. Per cleaning	
7	A/V Rental Fee	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35.00	75 people or less	
8	Room Rental Fee - Hourly (M-F Only)	\$66.00	\$82.00	\$49.00	\$66.00	\$82.00	\$49.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$49.00	More than 75 people	
9	Room Rental Fee - Day Rate (S/Su Only)	\$462.00	\$574.00	\$343.00	\$462.00	\$574.00	\$343.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$462.00		
11	Damaged Items	Actual Costs			Actual Costs			N/A			Actual Costs	

All rentals subject to approval