



TO: Chair and Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: JoAnne Plummer, Neighborhood Services Director

CONTACT: George Thomson, Parks and Open Space Manager

SUBJECT: Parks and Open Space Division Report

RECOMMENDATION:

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

DISCUSSION:

California Coastal Commission Approves Permit for Butterfly Grove Project

The Ellwood Mesa Monarch Butterfly Habitat Management Plan Phase 1 Implementation Project was approved by the California Coastal Commission at their May 10 meeting in Crescent City. The project's general scope of work includes planting new trees and native plants, trail improvements, new signage, a footbridge to span Devereux Creek, and improving butterfly viewing areas. City staff are currently working with Coastal Commission staff to satisfy the special conditions of the permit, including the public access plan and an integrated pest management plan. The City expects to have the permit in hand and work to commence this month, with major irrigation installation and plantings to commence later this summer.

Wildfire risk reduction work, permitted under a separate Coastal Development Permit, is ongoing at Ellwood Mesa. Work commenced in May and is expected to continue through October. Several different contracted crews have been focused on felling dead eucalyptus trees, chipping up tree limbs and dead shrubs, removing non-native ground level vegetation, and mowing annual non-native grasses. The City developed an outreach webpage for all Ellwood Mesa projects to provide up-to-date information:

<https://www.cityofgoleta.org/play/parks-recreation-open-spaces/ellwood-mesa-and-monarch-butterfly-habitat/ellwood-now-work-in-progress>

Winter Storms Damage & Repair Projects

Several repair projects are underway to improve public facilities damaged by last winter's storms. These include the replacement of the Devereux Creek culvert near Santa Barbara Shores Drive, a drainage facility in Evergreen Park, a roadway culvert on Newport Dr. near the Santa Barbara Shores Open Space and the Coronado Butterfly Preserve (Land Trust of Santa Barbara County), culvert repair near Stonebridge Open Space at San Pedro Creek, and a drainage inlet near Lake Los Carneros at Covington Way. More details are available here:

<https://www.goletamonarchpress.com/2024/07/infrastructure-repair-work-to-take-place-over-summer/>

Coffee & Community and Beautify Goleta at Berkeley Park on July 20

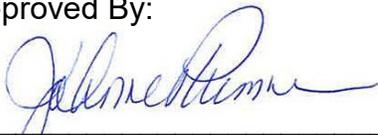
Mayor Perotte and Mayor Pro Tempore Reyes-Martín are hosting a community event on Saturday, July 20 at Berkeley Park. The Coffee & Community event encourages the Goleta community to connect with our elected officials, City staff, and neighbors on important public issues. The event will co-host a Beautify Goleta volunteer clean up of the neighborhood and a bulky item drop off. More details are available here:

<https://www.goletamonarchpress.com/2024/07/coffee-community-and-beautify-goleta-at-berkeley-park-on-july-20/>

Maintenance Worker Promoted to Public Works Supervisor

Juan Jimenez was recently promoted to the Public Works Supervisor position in the Parks and Open Space Division. Mr. Jimenez started his career at the City in October 2018 as a Maintenance Worker I on the Parks team and was promoted to the Maintenance Worker II position in 2023. In his new role, he is responsible for the implementation and daily oversight of the many maintenance programs that keep our 30 parks and open spaces clean, safe, and beautiful. He supervises four Maintenance Worker I/II staff, as well as overseeing the daily activities of contract janitorial, landscape maintenance, tree trimmers, and specialty tradespeople working to make Goleta parks the best they can be.

Approved By:



JoAnne Plummer,
Neighborhood Services Director