



**Agenda Item B.2**  
**DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM**  
**Meeting Date: July 10, 2024**

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**TO:** Chair and Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission

**FROM:** JoAnne Plummer, Neighborhood Services Director

**CONTACT:** Mackenzie Christie, Management Analyst  
George Thomson, Parks and Open Space Manager

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Parking Improvements at Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Consider and support the proposed parking improvements at Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park.

**BACKGROUND:**

Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park opened to the community in 2019. The Park includes a multi-purpose field, basketball court, handball court, concrete ping-pong table, bocce ball court, pickleball court, perimeter walking path, fitness nodes with exercise equipment, picnic areas, and skateboard plaza. The park is a popular destination for picnics with two reservable sites with a capacity of 30 people at each site. There are also four smaller picnic areas that were recently improved with shade structures. A new splashpad aquatic facility is under construction and is anticipated to be one of the most popular recreational amenities in Old Town Goleta. Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park provides a variety of activities and has proven to fill a variety of needs for Goleta. However, access to the park continues to be an issue due to limited parking availability along nearby public streets and in the parking lot within the park.

The parking lot provides 22 regular spaces and two accessible parking spaces for park users. The lot is for park users only and no overnight parking is permitted. The parking lot is often full and City staff receive regular complaints about non-park users parking in the lot, then going to their nearby residence or place-of-work, or shopping at one of the businesses within walking distance of the park. Unauthorized overnight parking in the lot occurs daily, despite current regulations prohibiting use of the parking lot after the park closes at sunset. The City has not actively enforced this rule. In addition to park patrons having limited access to parking, City maintenance crews and contractors frequently cannot find any available parking spaces in the parking lot or on the street. The park requires daily maintenance, with janitorial and landscape crews spending several hours at the park each day. The new splashpad will also require about two hours of maintenance staff time each day the facility is in operation.

## DISCUSSION:

City staff are proposing several changes to the parking lot, signage, and enforcement to increase the amount of parking for park users and maintenance staff. This report proposes parking improvements at Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park in response to ongoing issues related to unauthorized and overnight parking by non-park patrons. The proposed improvements address the following issues: Overnight parking, a need for maintenance vehicle parking, and addressing the critical issue of non-park users using the Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park parking lot.

Parking improvements are needed at Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park to increase parking availability for park patrons and maintenance staff.

### Proposed Improvements:

1. **Four-hour maximum time limit:** A four-hour maximum parking limit for the 20 regular parking spaces is proposed. New signage is proposed to be installed at the parking lot entrance and in front of the parking spaces to ensure the proposed four-hour timed limit is clearly visible. This will encourage a turnover of parking availability and is intended to increase the number of spots open to park patrons throughout the day. Enforcement of the time limit will be conducted by the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department under contract to the City of Goleta.
2. **No overnight parking enforcement:** No overnight parking is already posted at the site, however limited enforcement has been in place. Staff are proposing to work with County Sheriff to enforce this rule to improve parking availability for park patrons in the evening and morning hours, when some overnight parkers presumably leave their vehicles in the lot. Staff are exploring opportunities to provide a warning prior to vehicles being cited or towed.
3. **Maintenance Vehicle Parking Allocation:** The Parks and Open Space Division has several contractors such as landscape maintenance and janitorial services that need access to the park daily. The addition of two dedicated maintenance vehicle parking spots will allow contractors to access the site quickly. With the construction of the Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park Splash Pad nearing completion, it is essential to allocate two designated parking spaces within the park's parking lot specifically for maintenance vehicles.
4. **Additional Street Parking:** Two additional street parking spots near 111 S. Kellogg Ave have been added to help alleviate overflow in the parking lot and provide more parking for park visitors and the wider community.

The new changes include the installation of clear and visible four-hour maximum parking limit signs in all applicable parking spaces and renewed emphasis on no overnight parking. Additionally, two maintenance vehicle parking spaces will be designated in the Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park parking lot with clear signage and pavement markings. The Parks and Open Space Division will coordinate with parking enforcement

to establish a regular monitoring schedule. Lastly, Parking Enforcement will issue warnings and citations as necessary to ensure adherence to parking regulations.


Outreach notices will be delivered to adjacent properties within 500 feet of the proposed changes, in accordance with City's noticing protocols. Onsite informational boards will also posted at the site prior to the City Council meeting of August 20 to inform the public of the proposed parking restrictions. The date and time of the Council meeting will be included on the notices to encourage members of the public to attend the meeting and provide feedback.

By implementing designated maintenance vehicle spaces, timed parking enforcement, and additional street parking, the City of Goleta will enhance park accessibility and ensure that parking spaces are used appropriately.

**Next Steps:**

City staff is tentatively scheduled to take this item to City Council on August 20. If Council approves the proposed parking improvements, new regulatory signs will go up and parking restrictions will be enforced this fall.

**Approved By:**

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JoAnne Plummer,  
Neighborhood Services Director

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Proposed Parking Improvements at Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park Presentation

## **ATTACHMENT 1**

Proposed Parking Improvements at Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park Presentation



# Proposed Parking Improvements at Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park

Mackenzie Christie, Management Analyst  
George Thomson, Parks and Open Space Manager

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

July 10, 2024

Looking towards Kellogg Avenue on the parking lot during sunset with vehicles parking in the parking lot drive aisle





Overview of proposed timed parking spaces and City maintenance vehicle parking spaces





Location of two new on-street parking spaces Kellogg Avenue by removing partial red curb at former MTD bus stop





# Proposed Parking Improvements

- No Overnight Parking
  - Four-hour max limit for 20 regular parking spaces
  - Two dedicated accessible parking spaces (existing)
  - Two dedicated maintenance vehicle parking spaces (conversion)
  - Two new street parking spaces open to public (new)
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- Outreach and Enforcement
  - City Council August 20, 2024 (pending confirmation)