



**Agenda Item A.5**  
**CONSENT CALENDAR**  
**Meeting Date: November 8, 2023**

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

**FROM:** Jaime A. Valdez, Neighborhood Services Director

**SUBJECT:** Director's Report

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive the Director's Report on current events and projects supported by the Neighborhood Services Department.

**DISCUSSION:**

OLD TOWN HOLIDAY PARADE

The Goleta Old Town Holiday Parade will return to Old Town Goleta on December 2, 2023. This community event is hosted by the Goleta Lions Club and will take place along Hollister Ave from Orange to Kinman beginning at 6:00 PM. For more information about the parade, volunteering or how to participate, visit [goletaholidayparade.org](http://goletaholidayparade.org).

DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

The Department of Neighborhood Services welcomed Melissa Cure as the Department's new Management on July 31<sup>st</sup> of this year. Upon the completion of her onboarding and training period, Ms. Cure has begun to support many of the Department's different division's including but not limited to, Homelessness, Emergency Services, Community Block Development Block Grants Program (CDBG) and the City of Goleta Grant program. The addition of Ms. Cure has allowed Mr. Leonel Mendoza-Diaz to transition back to the Parks and Recreation Division assisting with administrative, program and CIP Project Support.

In early October, Neighborhood Services' Management Analyst, Shanna Dawson, announced that she had accepted a position with the County of Santa Barbara. Ms. Dawson has been a pivotal member with the City of Goleta's Neighborhood Services Department for the last four years with her work in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the Goleta City Grant Program, and multitude of other programs. Although this creates a void within the Department, the City of Goleta is thankful for her service and excited to see her take the next step in her professional career.

GOLETA CITY GRANT PROGRAM AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA) RELEASE

The City of Goleta will be accepting applications for grant funding through its Goleta City Grant Program and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, with the application process beginning on December 15, 2023. These funding opportunities have provided support to many local agencies. For information on funding requirements, application submission or grant funding general information, visit the City of Goleta's website at <https://www.cityofgoleta.org/your-city/neighborhood-services/grants>.

LIBRARY GRANT FUNDING SECURED

The California State Library recently awarded the City a \$4.278 million dollar grant to be used for improvements to the Goleta Valley Library's (GVL) facility. The GVL recently celebrated fifty years at its location at 500 N. Fairview and provides essential services to the City of Goleta as well as the unincorporated County areas of the greater Goleta Valley, Isla Vista, Hope Ranch, and Gaviota. The funding is earmarked exclusively for Library-related infrastructure, supporting critical maintenance needs, safety improvements, energy-efficiency, and physical access. The City will be required to provide a 25% match (\$1.069 million), for a total of \$5.348 million to significantly upgrade GVL.

EMERGENCY PLAN UPDATES

On October 5, 2023, select City of Goleta staff participated in an annual Goleta Emergency Exercise in conjunction with neighboring municipalities. City staff were immersed in a simulated emergency scenario to refresh and execute procedures needed for preparation of the upcoming winter storms. In addition to the exercise, staff are working with the American Red Cross to update shelter management contracts for the Goleta Community Center and securing required training opportunities for staff, should the need for a shelter arise.

**Approved By:**



Jaime A. Valdez  
Neighborhood Services Director