



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

February 11, 2021
Item 6

**TITLE: REVIEW AND DISCUSS PARKS MAINTENANCE DIVISION REPORT FOR
2020**

SUMMARY

The Parks Maintenance Division typically submits a quarterly report that summarizes the recent quarter's activities. Due to COVID-19 a quarterly report has not been provided since the fourth quarter of 2019. The intent of this report is to inform the commission of the general nature of ongoing maintenance activities for the period, project work, and other maintenance related items during calendar year 2020.

RECOMMENDATION

Review and discuss the Parks Maintenance Division report for 2020.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

None.

BACKGROUND

The Parks Division has five park maintenance crews and one median, trails and open space crew. The “park” crews are comprised of four to five full-time employees that are responsible for all aspects of park maintenance in a geographic area. The “median” crew is comprised of two full-time employees with responsibilities throughout the entire city. Each crew submits quarterly reports of significant maintenance events in their respective areas. This report is a summary of those events.

DISCUSSION

Routine maintenance activities for calendar year 2020 included: as-needed turf mowing, pesticide applications, fertilizer applications, mulch installation, tree removal, irrigation system repairs and programming, turf renovation, tree installation, plant installation, leaf removal, vandalism repair, stump grinding, storm clean-up, equipment maintenance, limited ball field preparation, and weekly play area safety inspections once playgrounds were reopened for use.

Project work for the calendar year 2020 included: Planting at Augustin Bernal trail, fencing replacement at Val Vista Community Park, new playground installation at Orloff Park, court resurfacing at Orloff and Kottinger Village Parks, Santa Rita Rd. median renovation, vandalism repair, and Lions Wayside Park eucalyptus tree removal.

The City’s tree trimming vendor, West Coast Arborist (WCA), worked in Districts 8 through 12 which includes central and eastern Pleasanton.

The street median maintenance contractor, Terra Landscape, Inc., focused their efforts on regularly scheduled maintenance and Main Street planter installation.

Listed below are highlights broken down by month of work performed by Parks staff during 2020:

January 2020



- A driver caused damage at the Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail. Repairs were made by an on-call contractor.
- New “Pick up after your dog \$100 fine” signs installed in all parks under park rules signs.
- Infill planting at Cultural Arts was completed.
- 35 new trees were installed at Val Vista Community Park
- New trees installed at the Augustin Bernal Park Valley View Trail slide repair.

February 2020



- Val Vista Park – Fencing replaced adjacent to skate park and a new access gate installed behind snack shack.
- Meadowwood Ct. median planter was completely renovated by City staff.
- February 9th wind event resulted in many emergency tree calls throughout the City. Trees were downed at Orloff and Nielsen Parks. Branches and storm debris cleanup at Sports Parks was some of the worst ever seen.
- Planters along Eileen Dr. and Oakland Ave. were renovated at Nielsen Park which included over 100 new roses.
- Concrete replacement at Ken Mercer Sports Park Phase 5
- New concessions stand installed at Ken Mercer Sports Park in Phase 2.
- New irrigation booster pump installed at Muirwood Park.



March 2020

- COVID-19 shelter in place orders begin. Staff time reduced to one day per week in stable cohorts. Staff's focus was on mowing, irrigation repairs, and emergency work.
- Superintendent and supervisors work from home when not scheduled to come in.
- Part time staff is reduced from 10 to 2.

April 2020

- Playgrounds, courts and dog parks are closed for public safety. Drinking fountains turned off. Signs posted at all parks with COVID-19 messaging.
- Focus remains on mowing and emergency work.

May 2020

- Orloff Park playground replacement begins. Both the 2–5-year-old and 5-12 year old playgrounds are to be replaced.
- Staff continued working a modified schedule.

June 2020

- Staff hours are increased and new larger stable cohorts are created.
- Staff worked weekends to address added trash generated downtown and in high use parks.
- Playgrounds reopen to the public.



July 2020

- Waterline repair made at Cubby's Dog Park. An additional 150 cubic yards of engineered wood fiber was also blown in.
- The ornamental wood fence at Laurel Creek Park was badly vandalized. Park staff removed the fence completely as repairs were made multiple times in the past.
- Staff focus continued to be on routine maintenance.

August 2020

- The turf was renovated and a new tree installed at the Museum on Main.
- The tree contractor removed two hazardous Chinese pistache street trees due to large branch failures.
- The ballfields at Ken Mercer Sports Park were dragged for the first time since March.
- The Area 2 crew at Ken Mercer Sports Park reports turf is growing five inches per week requiring them to vacuum the clippings to avoid smothering the grass. This requires a significant amount of staff time.



August 2020 (cont.)

- Muirwood Dog Park renovation is complete. The renovation included hazardous tree removal, new picnic tables, new irrigation system, new trees installed, new engineered wood fiber and DG band along the fence for ease of maintenance.



September 2020



- The Blue Gum Eucalyptus tree was removed at Lions Wayside Park. Work started on a Tuesday and was completed by Friday. Some large sections of the tree that were removed weighed between 20,000 and 25,000 pounds.
- The median renovation on Santa Rita Rd. between Valley Ave. and Mohr Ave. begins.
- Downtown planters are replanted.
- Orloff Park playgrounds replacements are complete.
- New median planting project completed on Bernal Ave. near Puerto Vallarta.

October 2020



- Staff returns to work full time. Portable trailers for break room/offices, dressing rooms and restrooms are installed at the Operations Service Center to allow enough social distance between staff and to keep existing stable cohorts separate.



- Court resurfacing is progressing nicely at Orloff and Kottinger Village Parks.
- Fall turf renovations began.
- Graffiti was removed again from Laurel Creek Park picnic tables.
- Owl boxes were maintained and cleaned.

November 2020

- On November 20th the playground at Hansen Park was badly damaged by fire. Staff began planning for the repairs that day by contacting the supplier for assistance.
- An Eagle Scout Project at Agustin Bernal Park consisting of a bike pump and tool station was completed with staff assistance.
- Trees are vandalized with a hatchet at Bernal Community Park Phase 2.
 - Senior Center south parking lot planter is renovated. 800 new plants were installed.
 - A faulty pressure regulator valve at Val Vista Community Park resulted in several irrigation mainline leaks near the soccer fields.
 - New signs were installed at BMX to help eliminate unauthorized digging.





December 2020

- Staff began a staggered start time schedule due to the surge of COVID cases in the State. This further reduced contact between employees.
- Playgrounds were closed due to COVID on 12/7 and then reopened on 12/11. Staff installs new signage for closure and then replaces with old signage for reopening.
- Turf sweeping at Patelco turf fields was completed. Six new soccer nets were installed.
- More trees were vandalized with a hatchet at Bernal Community Park.
- More graffiti is abated at Laurel Creek Park picnic tables. Overgrown and volunteer coyote brush shrubs are removed to increase visibility and hopefully deter some of the nefarious activity at the park.

Although staffing was augmented for most of 2020 due to COVID-19, Parks staff and City contractors remained productive and completed numerous projects and maintained the City's parks and trails system.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION

Any other action as determined by the Commission.

Submitted by:

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