



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

October 13, 2022
Item 4

TITLE: REVIEW AND DISCUSS PARKS MAINTENANCE DIVISION REPORT APRIL 2022 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2022

SUMMARY

The semi-annual Parks Maintenance Report summarizes division highlights and activities. The report provides the commission an overview of maintenance activities and project work accomplished from April 2022 through September 2022.

RECOMMENDATION

Review and discuss the Parks Maintenance Division Report for April 2022 through September 2022.

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 three to six full-time employees that are responsible for all aspects of park maintenance in a geographic area. The park crews maintain 46 sites, totaling 385 acres. The median crew is comprised of two full-time employees with responsibilities throughout the entire city. The median crew maintains 85 acres of medians, 23 miles of trails and trail heads, and 1,016 acres of open space. Each crew submits monthly reports of significant maintenance events in their respective areas. This report is a summary of those events.

DISCUSSION

Routine maintenance activities for April 2022 through September 2022 included: as-needed turf mowing, pesticide applications, fertilizer applications, mulch installation, tree removals, irrigation system repairs and programming, turf renovation, tree installation, plant installation, stump grinding, equipment maintenance, ball field preparation, weekly play area safety inspections, and water conservation efforts including locating and repairing leaks, monitoring water use, and irrigation system adjustments.

Project work for this period included: trash can installations at Mission Hills Park, new picnic table installations, planter renovation at Fire House Arts, irrigation communication upgrades, playground wood fiber installation and trail vegetation maintenance.

The City's tree trimming vendor, West Coast Arborist (WCA), worked primarily in District 5, which includes areas between Hopyard Rd. and 680 Freeway. WCA worked in the park system approximately fifteen percent of the time during this reporting period. They also pruned trees for the annual street resurfacing work managed by the Engineering Department.

The street median maintenance contractor, Terra Landscape, Inc., focused their efforts on regularly scheduled maintenance.

Listed below are highlights of additional work performed by Parks staff during this period:

Mission Hills Park

- Six additional garbage cans were installed to meet the demands of this busy park.

Ken Mercer Sports Park

- Three new concrete picnic tables were installed at the east end of the park near the basketball court and volleyball court
- 500 cubic yards of mulch were installed beneath the trees along Parkside Drive
- Removed and replaced dugout roof for Girls Softball 3, first base side
- Removed and replaced dugout roof for LL4, first base side

- The wooden backstops at LL 1, LL 4, LL 5, LL 6 and Hardball D were prepped and painted
- Round one of turf renovation began in the last week of September, which included aeration, seeding and compost topdressing.

Pleasanton Tennis and Community Park

- Two new concrete picnic tables were installed
- A section of concrete was removed and replaced on the approach to the footbridge over the Pleasanton Canal in the northwest corner of the park. The concrete had shifted and was creating a tripping hazard.

Bernal Community Park

- The four baseball dugouts were painted
- Staff installed four new practice pitching mounds in the bullpens and removed the old worn-out portable mounds
- Installed new “No Dogs on Field” signage at the synthetic turf fields
- Installed seven 24-inch box native oak trees and applied 50 yards of mulch in Phase 2 near the practice field
- Removed wooden tree stakes in the oak woodland area.

Senior Center / Centennial Park

- Eleven new concrete benches were installed to replace the metal benches that were damaged beyond salvage from rust.

Firehouse Arts Center

- The planter at the rear of the Firehouse Art Center was renovated and new plants installed.

Lions Wayside Park

- Staff removed the wooden structure over the bandstand. The support posts were severely rotted, and the structure was no longer safe. New metal poles were mounted, and new café style lights were installed to provide lighting for Concerts in the Park. Staff worked smartly and safely to remove the structure and the project shows the capability of staff beyond landscape maintenance.

Muirwood Community Park

- As part of an Eagle Scout project, staff assisted Boy Scouts with the installation of two new dog bag dispensers

- The irrigation controllers at Muirwood Community Park lost power for several weeks until a new electrical connection was made. A small generator was used to power the irrigation controller and staff would begin work early to start the generator to keep the park irrigated
- The project to resurface the basketball court and tennis courts began and should be completed by the end of October.

Del Prado Park

- One of the covered slides on the 5-12 year-old playground required removal due to several cracks in the plastic that appeared making the slide unsafe. A new panel with an outlook periscope was installed. The slide was not replaced due to the age of the structure and a similar replacement slide was not available from the manufacturer.

Library Facility

- Parks staff along with our tree contractor pruned all the trees surrounding the library in preparation for the new roof project. In addition, irrigation sprinklers were marked or capped to avoid damage during the roofing project.

Pleasanton Middle School Tennis Courts

- Based on a citizen complaint in February 2022, the two tennis courts at Pleasanton Middle School were inspected. The surfacing on both courts was in poor condition. The last record of court resurfacing was in 2007. Both courts were repaired and painted in June without having to remove the existing surfacing, which reduced the cost. The courts now look great.

Alviso Adobe

- The large valley oak behind the adobe lost a large limb on September 8, 2022. The limb damaged a portion of the shed structure behind the Alviso Adobe. There was only minor damage to the roofing shingles. The tree contractor carried out major limb reductions on the Alviso Adobe side of the tree.

Augustin Bernal Park

- On June 23, 2022, a fire impacted a large portion of the Augustin Bernal Park property. Approximately 46 acres burned within the boundaries of Augustin Bernal Park. In total, the fire was approximately 60 acres. Unincorporated Alameda County and East Bay Regional Park District property were also impacted. The fire began on the Kilkare Road side of the ridge. Staff will continue to monitor the park as we move into the winter months. Some burned trees are already showing signs of new growth.

Trails

- Repairs were made on the Alamo Canal Trail behind the DSRSD Wastewater Treatment Plant. The asphalt paving was failing and hazardous. Zone 7 performed the work with their contractor through the Tri-Valley Intergovernmental Reciprocal Services Master Agreement. The City contributed funding to the repairs. In total, approximately 500 linear feet of asphalt was removed and replaced by the compacted gravel, which is the Zone 7 standard
- Vegetation was pruned back from several locations along the Arroyo Mocho and Alamo Canal trails for adequate clearance for recreational use
- Staff trimmed brush and vegetation away from portions of the Moller Ranch Trail. The work included poison oak management, which was severely intruding on the trail
- Several acres of invasive goatgrass were trimmed in the Callippe Preserve open space. This invasive species of grass is unpalatable to cattle and is spreading in this open space
- A broken raptor perch was repaired in the open space near the Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail.

Medians

- The crew investigated, discovered and repaired a three-inch irrigation mainline break along the Valley Avenue underpass (near Bernal Community Park)
- Staff is addressing leaks as they are reported through the Utility Billing continuous consumption reports
- Staff is diligently manually watering the street trees planted within the last three years
- Staff continues to assist with root pruning for sidewalk repairs. This is still a somewhat new responsibility for the Parks Division.

Callippe Preserve Golf Course

- The driving range tee was renovated. This include re-grading the tee area to provide more space for users and to allow greater time for the grass to heal as users are moved around
- The golf greens were aerated and top-dressed with sand. This is a standard golf green maintenance practice
- A leak was discovered on a 10-inch irrigation mainline under a bridge approach between hole 16 and hole 17. In addition, power was lost to irrigation controllers on holes 3, 4, 5, 6, 12 and 17 due to a wiring issue likely related to the water leak. A temporary repair was made to restore power to the impacted holes. A contractor made the final irrigation mainline repairs. The final electrical repairs are also complete

- Bunker renovations began at the end of September and should be complete by mid-October. In all, six bunkers on holes 4, 6, 7 and 17 will be renovated. These are some of the largest bunkers on the course.

Water Conservation

Implementing water conservation strategies is ongoing. Changes were made in our irrigation software settings and staff proactively looked for areas to reduce water use. We were able to meet our fifteen percent water conservation goals in April (30.1%), May (22.3%), June (17.22%), July (21.32%), and August (19.53%). In September, the Parks Division was still able to conserve 18.6% despite six days of over 100-degree temperatures. The values noted above take into account both park and median potable water use.

Staffing Updates

- Three vacant Parks Landscape Maintenance Worker I positions were filled during this reporting period
- Parks currently has only one Parks Landscape Maintenance Worker I vacancy.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION

Any other action as determined by the Commission.

Submitted by:

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