



C-13

CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE



best in nation

June 2, 2009

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(562) 570-3100 • FAX (562) 570-3109
www.LBParks.org

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Report.
(Citywide)

DISCUSSION

In accordance with Municipal Code 2.18.090, the 2008 Annual Report for the Parks and Recreation Commission and transmittal letter (attached) are presented for City Council review. The Commission President reports that the Commission fulfilled its goals and objectives and was able to serve the citizens of Long Beach effectively as a result of these accomplishments. The report summarizes the actions of the Parks and Recreation Commission during the year 2008.

The Parks and Recreation Commission is proud of the work it accomplished during the past year and appreciates the support provided by the Mayor, City Council, and staff.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action on this item is not critical.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,
Drew Satariano, President
Parks and Recreation Commission

By:

PHIL T. HESTER
DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE

PTH:rb
Attachment

APPROVED:

PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER



CITY OF LONG BEACH, DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

"We create community and enhance the quality of life in Long Beach through people, places, programs and partnerships."

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PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

Membership

The Parks and Recreation Commission was established by the City Charter, Article IX. Commission members serving in calendar year 2008 were:

Simon George

Albert Guerra

Bob Livingstone (served from January through September)

Harry Saltzgaver (served as President from January through July)

Sarah Tong Sangmeister

Drew Satariano (served as Vice President from January through July and President from August through December)

Brett Waterfield (served as Vice President from August through December)

Powers and Duties of the Commission

The Parks and Recreation Commission shall have such exclusive authority over all leisure activities in public parks and recreational facilities, controlled or operated by the City, as may be prescribed by the City Council by ordinance; and with respect thereto shall have the following powers and duties.

- ❖ Recommend to City Manager and City Council, the acquisition of land for public parks and public recreation, the dedication of public land for public parks, the removal of public land from dedication as park land, and the acquisition of buildings, waterways, or other facilities for public recreation.
- ❖ Recommend to the City Manager, City Council, and Planning Commission, the approval or rejection of plans for improvement of park land for public recreation and for other purposes, including but not limited to buildings and other facilities, other than land and facilities within the tide and submerged lands granted to the City.
- ❖ Authorize the issuance of permits and agreements related to leisure activities in public parks and recreational facilities controlled or operated by the City.
- ❖ Establish fees for public recreational programs and use of public parks and recreation facilities.
- ❖ Perform such other duties as may be delegated by the City Council by ordinance.

Parks and Recreation Commission Committees

Each of the Commissioners serves on at least two of the seven committees and is the chair of one committee. The committees are listed below, including their responsibilities.

1. **Executive Committee**
 - Meet with the Director to review overall progress of planned projects.
 - Provide feedback to the Director on new major projects for land acquisition or other unscheduled projects.
 - Provide input and feedback for annual departmental budget priorities and other issues.
 - Oversee the Department's Strategic Plan.

2. **Finance and Appeals Committee**
 - Annual review proposed fees and charges.
 - Review and comment on annual budget recommendations.
 - Act as official appeals board for fee and contract disputes (as stipulated in the City Charter).
 - FOR Long Beach work plan.

3. **Park Safety Committee**
 - Review the Park Ranger program.
 - Review and evaluate park crime data from City departments.
 - Develop plan to address park safety issues.

4. **Marketing and Customer Service Committee**
 - Support Department efforts and identify opportunities to enhance customer service.
 - Review of Department mailing plans.

5. **Capital Improvements and Infrastructure Committee**
 - Park Impact Fees.
 - Joint school/park acquisition and development.
 - Open Space Element of the General Plan update.
 - Maintenance of facilities – parks.

6. **City Schools/Joint Committee**
(disbanded)

7. **Special Events and Recreation Committee**
 - Review and comment on citywide or major special events.
 - Review and comment on recreation programs and policies.
 - Being neighborhood friendly for special events and filming.

REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CITY COUNCIL AND SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES FOR 2008

Each month, the Parks and Recreation Commission recognized employees of the month from the department. Recognizing employees for their hard work and commitment is a highlight of the meetings.

January

- Recommended to the City Council and City Manager that 1) the expansion of Livingston Drive Playground is an appropriate improvement to Livingston Drive Park; and, 2) up to \$150,000 in Matching Funds be reserved for use in these improvements.
- Approved the December 20, 2007 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.
- Recommended to the City Council that Al Weiner Ballpark is an appropriate name for the Pony-Colt field at Heartwell Park.
- Approved the new marketing approach and mailing schedule of the redesigned class brochure.
- Received and filed the Director's Monthly Report for December 2007.

February

- Approved the January 18, 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.
- Authorized the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a permit with Elite Special Events, Inc., for a term of one year, expiring March 31, 2009, with options for renewal subject to the discretion of the Director.
- Approved the placement and installation of the memorial bench in memory of David Jack Pettigrew.
- Authorized the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a permit with the Diamond Project, LLC for the use of Blair Field to allow the Golden Baseball League's Long Beach franchise, the Armada, to play baseball games, practice and host events for a term of five (5) years.
- Received and filed the Director's Monthly Report for January 2008.

March

- Approved the February 21, 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.
- Approved the 2007 Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Report and authorize the Director to forward it to the City Council, pending a letter of transmittal from President Saltzgeber.

- Authorized the Director to execute a permit with Theodore Snellen, doing business as Snack Attack, for the operation of a food and beverage concession and paddle boat rentals in El Dorado East Regional Park, Areas II and III, for a term of three (3) years, with two (2) three-year (3-year) options to renew.
- Received and filed the Director's Monthly Report for February 2008.

April

- Approved the March 20, 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.
- Authorized the Community Recreation Services Bureau Manager or his or her management designee to execute the Personal Services and Instruction Agreements and amend Attachment "A" of the agreements as needed.
- Authorized the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a permit with Knowledge Learning Corporation® for the operation of a science camp from June 6, 2008 through August 22, 2008, at El Dorado Park West, Picnic Site A.
- Authorized the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute the first Amendment to Permit No. 28843 with the Trustees of California State University, Long Beach to extend the term an additional five (5) years, adjust advertising revenue sharing, secure/ accept a scoreboard contribution and adjust Permit fees to reflect the Consumer Price Index.
- Approved the placement and installation of the memorial bench in memory of Nadya Conway.
- Approved the placement and installation of the memorial bench in memory of Wayne P. Bott.
- Received and filed the Director's Monthly Report for March 2008.

May

- Approved the April 17, 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.
- Authorized the Community Recreation Services Bureau Manager or his or her management designee to execute the Personal Services and Instruction Agreements and amend Attachment "A" of the agreements as needed.
- Approved the development of the Cricket Ground in El Dorado Park, Area II and to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a permit with Southern California Cricket League, commencing on June 1, 2008, and expiring on a date to be determined, pending approval.
- Authorized the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute the Ninth Amendment to Picnic Service Concession Permit No. 23430 with A.J.'s Custom Picnics for a term of one year, expiring June 30, 2009.

- Authorized the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a permit with Chef Gregory's Gourmet Catering for a term of one year, expiring May 31, 2009, with options for renewal subject to the discretion of the Director.
- Directed staff to develop an appeal process and bring it back to the Executive Committee.
- Recommended to the Mayor and City Council to support the placement of an infrastructure bond issue on the November 2008 ballot citywide to include, among other projects, the attached list of PRM infrastructure projects totaling \$99.2 million.
- Received and filed the Director's Monthly Report for April 2008.

June

- Approved the May 15, 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.
- Approved recommendation to authorize the execution of a Youth League Permit Including Concession Stand with the Long Beach Soccer Club and Long Beach Youth Soccer League for nonexclusive use of sports fields for a term of three years, expiring February 29, 2011.
- Approved recommendation to authorize the Department Director to execute picnic service concession permits with Character's Kids Love, Inc., James Productions, Inc., and Posh Productions, Inc., for a three-year term through June 30, 2011, with one two-year option for renewal at the discretion of the Department Director.
- Approved recommendation to approve the placement and installation of the memorial bench to honor Jack Rabin, M.D.
- Approved recommendation to authorize the execution of a permit for the operation of a picnic service concession with All Suite Marketing dba International Events, for a term of one year expiring on June 18, 2009, with options for renewal subject to the discretion of the Director.
- Approved recommendation to the Planning Commission and City Council that they certify the Draft EIR for the Colorado Lagoon Restoration Project, State Clearinghouse #2007111034, and include concerns that more parking might be needed, look into a bridge trail over the center of the channel, and look into the issue of parks in perpetuity, to replace the land being taken.
- Approved recommendation to receive and file the Director's Monthly Report for May 2008.

July

- Approved the June 19, 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.
- Approved recommendation to the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee, and the full City Council, that the portion of El Dorado Park West, north of the Parks, Recreation and Marine administration building, be renamed "Good Neighbor Park."

- Approved recommendation to authorize the Community Recreation Services Bureau Manager or his or her management designee to execute the Personal Services and Instruction Agreements and amend Attachment "A" of the agreements as needed.
- Approved recommendation to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a new picnic service concession permit with Brian Matthew Black, dba Top Notch Events, through July 31, 2011, with one, two-year option for renewal, at the discretion of the Director.
- Approved recommendation to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a permit for the operation of a picnic service concession with GEC Events, for a term of one year expiring on July 17, 2009, with options for renewal, subject to the discretion of the Director.
- Approved recommendation to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute all documents necessary to assign Permit No. 30636 from Diamond Project, LLC, a California Limited Liability Company, to Diamond Sports & Entertainment, Inc., a Delaware Corporation.
- Approved recommendation to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a permit for the operation of a picnic service concession with Summit Event Catering, for a term of one year, expiring on July 18, 2009, with two three-year options for renewal, subject to the discretion of the Director.
- Approved recommendation to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a permit for the use of facilities at El Dorado Park West for the provision of out of school programming for girls, ages 11 to 15 years old, with Girlfriends, Inc., for a term of three years expiring on August 31, 2011, with two, three-year options for renewal subject to the discretion of the Director.
- Approved recommendation to receive and file the Director's Monthly Highlights Report for June 2008.

August

- Approved the July 17, 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes as amended.
- Approved recommendation to authorize the Community Recreation Services Bureau Manager or his or her management designee to execute the Personal Services and Instruction Agreements and amend Attachment "A" of the agreements as needed.
- Approved the revised Fiscal Year 2009 fees for El Dorado East bus entry and regular day camp.
- Approved recommendation to receive and file the Director's Monthly Highlights Report for July 2008.

September

- Approved the September 18, 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.
- Approved recommendation to approve the Master Plan Improvements for Rosie the Riveter Park.
- Approved recommendation to approve the improvements for Good Neighbor Park.
- Approved recommendation to approve the placement and installation of a memorial bench in Alamitos Bay Marina Basin 4, in memory of Charles and Renata Treffry.
- Approved recommendation to approve the placement and installation of a memorial bench at the round-about near the Long Beach Yacht Club in memory of Richard Solomon.
- Approved recommendation to approve the placement and installation of a memorial bench at Bluff Park at the corner of Coronado Avenue and Ocean Boulevard, in memory of Lorraine M. Lambert.
- Approved recommendation to approve the placement and installation of a memorial bench near the Long Beach Yacht Club on Appian Way in memory of Jeffrey Scott Civalleri.
- Approved recommendation to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a permit for the operation of a picnic service concession with R.T. Clown, Inc., for a term of one year expiring on August 31, 2009, with options for renewal, subject to the discretion of the Director.
- Approved recommendation to receive and file the Director's Monthly Highlights Report for August 2008.
- Approved recommendation to approve the Citywide Redevelopment Agency Public Art Program.
- Approved recommendation to approve the art improvements at MacArthur Park as an appropriate improvement.

October

- Approved the September 18, 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.
- Approved recommendation to approve the placement and installation of a memorial bench to honor Jack Rathbun.
- Approved recommendation to approve the placement and installation of a memorial bench to honor Marjel Ann Siegrist.
- Approved recommendation to receive and file the Director's Monthly Highlights Report for September 2008.

- Approved recommendation to receive and file the Aquarium of the Pacific Animal Care Center Improvements Report.
- Approved recommendation to approve the Cesar E. Chavez Park Art Table Project.
- Approved recommendation to approve that the acquisition and improvement of the Pacific Coast Highway and Atlantic Avenue mini-park as proposed meets a recreational need in the city and is appropriately designed.
- Approved recommendation to approve that the acquisition and improvement of the Pacific Coast Highway and Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue mini-park, as proposed, meets a recreational need in the city, with a modification to open the park on Pacific Coast Highway by removing the fence on that street frontage.
- Approved recommendation to approve that the acquisition and improvement of the Pacific Avenue and 9th Street Dog Park as proposed meets a recreational need in the city and is appropriately designed.
- Approved recommendation to approve that the acquisition and improvement of the Rosa Parks Park as proposed meets a recreational need in the city, with a modification that the 16th Street access from Alamitos Avenue to Orange Avenue be closed and connect the two smaller parcels into one park space.
- Approved recommendation to approve that the acquisition and improvement of the Orizaba Park expansion as proposed meets a recreational need in the city and is appropriately designed.
- Approved recommendation to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute all documents necessary to issue a revocable permit to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Long Beach for the use of approximately 3,600 square feet of building and yard space, located at 1205 Freeman Avenue, Long Beach, California 90804, for the administration and provision of programming to youth and teen participants, for a term of one year, with four one-year renewal periods subject to the discretion of the Director.
- Approved recommendation to support Measure I Infrastructure bond, as it relates to parks and recreation.

November

- Approved the October 16, 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.
- Approved recommendation to authorize the Director or his or her management designee to execute the Personal Services and Instruction Agreements and amend Attachment "A" of the agreements as needed.
- Approved recommendation to approve the placement and installation of a memorial bench in Bluff Park, in honor of Gisela (Gale) Brown.

- Approved recommendation to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a permit for the operation of a picnic service concession with Los Angeles Partyworks, Inc., for a term of one year expiring on November 19, 2009, with options for renewal, subject to the discretion of the Director.
- Suspended the City Schools/Joint Committee at this time with direction to the Executive Committee to continue to work towards restructuring the relationship between the Department and the School District.
- Approved recommendation to receive and file the Director's Monthly Highlights Report for October 2008.
- Approved a report for inclusion by the Planning Commission in the Annual Implementation Report for the Open Space and Recreation Element.

December

- Approved the November 20, 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.
- Approved the recommendation to authorize the Director to execute a Permit with Long Beach Little League, Inc., for the use of City-owned property located at 4519 E. Stearns Street, currently leased to the Association for Retarded Citizens – Long Beach, Inc., a California non-profit corporation.
- Approved Recommendation to adopt a resolution and approve the proposed changes for Day Camp, Gymnasium, and Facility Rental for El Dorado Regional Park Shady Grove Picnic Area and make such changes effective January 1, 2009.
- Approved recommendation to receive and file the Director's Monthly Highlights Report for November 2008.

The following groups requested and received **fee waivers** from the Parks and Recreation Commission during 2008. As part of the Fee Waiver Policy, all groups that receive fee waivers are required to provide in-kind or volunteer services to the Department equivalent to the fees being waived. The in-kind services are to be concluded within a (calendar) year from the date of the waiver.

January

- There were no requests for fee waivers in January.

February

- Approved the request by Visions in Time for the partial fee waiver of concessions and permit fees for exclusive use of Area III at the El Dorado East Regional Park on Saturday, May 31, and Sunday, June 1, 2008, with the following stipulations. Visions in Time will provide to the City a complete accounting of the event expenses and revenues.

March

- There were no requests for fee waivers in March.

April

- Authorized the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a Youth League Permit with Heartwell Fastpitch Softball League, Inc., for a term of three years, expiring on February 28, 2011, and waive its usual fees for rental, lights, administration and gross receipts on the sale of food and beverages in consideration for the City being recognized as a co-sponsor of the league by the Permittee.

May

- Laid over to the next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on June 19, 2008, the request for authorization to waive the concession and field permit fees for California Sun & Surf International Soccer Tournament, so a representative of the California Sun & Surf Organization could attend and respond to the Commission's questions.

June

- Approved recommendation to approve the California Sun & Surf International Soccer Tournament request for waiver of concession and field permit fees with "Conditions of Use," and include a condition of use to increase the amount donated to Partners of Parks by ten percent each year over the next three years, up to an amount of 80 percent of the fee that is waived.

July

- There were no requests for fee waivers in July.

August

- There were no requests for fee waivers in August.

September

- There were no requests for fee waivers in September.

October

- There were no requests for fee waivers in October.

November

- There were no requests for fee waivers in November.

December

- There were no requests for fee waivers in December.

The Commission received feedback provided through the **Customer Comment Cards**, which are distributed as part of programs and at facilities throughout the Department. During 2008, there were approximately 259 responses received, which have resulted in the following:

- Training staff regarding customer services.
- Assisting staff in modifying classes and programs provided to patrons.
- Assisting park maintenance staff in prioritizing projects and identifying areas in need of attention.
- Reducing the quantity of complaints received from the public.
- Pleasing patrons when changes have resulted from comment input.

Each customer comment card is read by the Director and written responses are provided to all who request a response. To create more of an outreach effort, Department staff attends approximately 23 neighborhood association and community meetings per month to discuss issues the community may have and to inform the community of current Department events.

RECREATION COMMISSION
ATTENDANCE RECORD – 2008

Commissioner	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Simon George	X	X	X	X	EX	X	X	X	X	X	X	EX
Albert Guerra	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	EX	X
Bob Livingstone	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	RES			
Drew Satariano	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Harry Saltzgaver	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	EX	X	X	X	X
Sarah Tong Sangmeister	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Brett Waterfield	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

X – Present

EX - Excused Absence

RES -Resigned from the Commission

UNEX - Unexcused Absence

APPT - Appointed to the Commission

TERM END -End of Term

The Parks and Recreation Commission meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m. These meetings are held at various locations throughout the city and are open to the public.

CITY PERSONNEL ASSISTING PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION - 2008

STAFF TOTAL:

<u>Director</u> 60 hrs. x \$116.90 =	\$ 7,014
<u>Manager, Business Operations</u> 34 hrs. x \$83.46 =	2,838
<u>Manager of Community Recreation Services</u> 34 hrs. x \$80.36 =	2,732
<u>Manager of Maintenance Operations</u> 40 hrs. x \$77.64 =	3,106
<u>Manager of Planning and Development</u> 40 hrs. x \$74.16 =	2,966
<u>Executive Assistant</u> 144 hrs. x \$42.18 =	6,074
<u>Superintendent of Personnel and Training</u> 8 hrs. x \$60.90 =	487
<u>Superintendent of Finance and Controls</u> 8 hrs. x \$57.83 =	463
<u>Monthly Commission Report</u> Bureau Manager - 2 hrs. x 12 mo. x \$83.46 = \$2,003 Secretary - 16 hrs. x 12 mo. x \$32.55 = \$6,250 Total	8,253
<u>Graphics/Print Shop</u> 1 hr. x 12 months x \$23.24 =	279

MISCELLANEOUS

<u>Materials and Supplies</u>	<u>2,228</u>
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TOTAL **\$ 36,440**

NOTE: The salary rates listed for each position represents hourly loaded costs.

DEPARTMENT PREAMBLE

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine believes that recreation is a basic human need. It provides social, cultural, physical and intellectual activities for all to enjoy in a quality environment, with inherent values beyond the scope of the activity.

People in the developed nations of the world have achieved an awesome technological capability that has relieved them of considerable effort in attaining their physiological needs, while giving them leisure. Simultaneously, our social structure has become increasingly urbanized, removing us from direct contact with the natural resources that still must sustain us. However, individuals have not yet completely achieved the ability to use their leisure time to stimulate the mind of the individual, as well as to enhance society. Increased population and the rapid growth of cities have resulted in loss of prime open space and created environmental problems almost beyond comprehension. The need to dedicate open space, including the acquisition of parkland as part of planned community development, is becoming desperate in many areas. Further, the need to educate an urban populace as to how to use parks without abuse, as well as the need to prevent overuse, must be met if parks are to survive once acquired.

The City of Long Beach has both the opportunity and the responsibility to work with private enterprise and other levels of government to fill these needs, while serving every segment of society, through the provision of a balanced program of leisure service opportunities, and environmental education. Youth will be helped to grow physically, mentally and spiritually while developing positive attitudes, which will help them avoid mistakes leading to the further degradation of the environment and society. Adults will have an outlet from the tensions of a competitive, industrialized urban life, and a chance to express their individuality and creativity, while becoming aware of their dependency upon, and inter-relationship with, natural resources. Older adults will find meaning and purpose in their retirement years.

Provision of basic leisure service opportunities and facilities is a major responsibility of government. In addition, voluntary and special interest groups, private agencies and commercial enterprises should be encouraged to supply appropriate leisure services in a coordinated delivery system, which will benefit the citizens of Long Beach in the following ways:

Personal Benefits

1. Investment in our youth, through recreation programs, provides for positive lifestyle choices and alternatives to self-destructive behavior.
2. Recreation provides the opportunity to lead balanced lives, achieve our full potential, and gain satisfaction in life.
3. Skills our citizens develop through meaningful recreation activities are essential sources of self-esteem and positive self-image.

Social Benefits

4. Community recreation can bridge the gap with our citizens and reduce alienation, loneliness, and anti-social behaviors.
5. Leisure service activities promote ethnic and cultural harmony, by allowing people to share their differences and play and grow together.
6. Community pride is generated through leisure service activities, facilities, programs, and voluntary commitment.

Economic Benefits

7. The provision of meaningful recreation activities for our young people reduces the high cost of vandalism and criminal activity.
8. The leisure services offered by our department are attractive to tourists and are an essential ingredient of this city's tourism industry.
9. Physical and mental health achieved through our department's delivery system, and balanced meaningful lifestyles, reduces expensive health care costs.

Environmental Benefits

10. Investing in the environment through our beaches, marinas, and waterways, and park land space in residential areas, leads to increased property values through accessibility and associated recreation opportunities.

Failure to meet the challenges of providing well-planned public open space and quality leisure-time opportunities, as well as the challenge of educating the public who use the facilities, will result in a diminution of the quality of human life. The City of Long Beach can help to meet these challenges.

MISSION AND GOALS

Mission

We create community and enhance the quality of life in Long Beach through people, places, programs, and partnerships.

Goals

- ◆ Ensure open space, parks, and recreational facilities meet community needs.
- ◆ Ensure City parks and recreational facilities provide a positive experience and image.
- ◆ Ensure recreational programming, leisure opportunities, and community services meet the diverse needs and interests of residents and visitors.
- ◆ Ensure beaches, waterways, and marine amenities are accessible and provide a positive experience and image.
- ◆ Ensure marinas are fiscally sound and meet boat owner and community needs.

FACILITIES, PROGRAMS, AND SERVICES

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine oversees the operation and maintenance of all Long Beach public recreational facilities, including:

- 3,066.4 acres devoted to open space and recreation
- 155 parks
- 5 golf courses -- The busiest municipal golf system in the nation
- 26 community centers
- 52 park playgrounds
- 6 miles of beaches
- 3 marinas with a combined 3,800 boat slips -- The largest municipally operated marina system in the nation
- 3 swimming pools
- 69 tennis courts
- 2 tennis centers
- Rancho Los Cerritos and Rancho Los Alamitos
- Rainbow Harbor and Rainbow Lagoon
- Long Beach Museum of Art
- El Dorado Nature Center
- Blair Field (baseball stadium)
- Leeway Sailing Center
- Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier
- Long Beach Municipal Cemetery

The Department provides free and fee-based recreational programs and leisure opportunities, both self-directed and organized, for people of all ages and cultures. Youth programs include free youth sports for ages 5 to 18 serving nearly 10,000 participants annually, summer and vacation day camps, 800 recreational and educational classes, sailing and aquatics instruction, teen center activities, skateboarding opportunities, and supervised afterschool and weekend activities at parks, schools, and mobile recreation sites. In addition, approximately 12,000 youth participate in non-Department sports leagues that utilize park facilities.

Adult recreation opportunities include sports leagues, tennis and golf facilities and instruction, and more than 2,100 recreational and self-improvement classes annually. Recreation programs and social services for seniors are offered at six community centers. A regional Senior Olympics program is also offered. Family recreation opportunities include Long Beach Municipal Band concerts, cultural arts programs, environmental programs, citywide and neighborhood special events, boating facilities, as well as general park and beach use. Additional information regarding the Department's programs and facilities can be found at www.lbparcs.org.

DEPARTMENT HISTORY

The Long Beach municipal parks system was created in 1888 with the development of Pacific Park (now Lincoln Park) in the downtown area. In the early 1900's, additional parks were developed with land donated by prominent Long Beach families including the Bixbys, Carrolls, and Houghtons. Parkland was also acquired from the Long Beach Water Company. The discovery of oil in 1921 dramatically increased municipal revenues, allowing the City to acquire additional parkland through direct purchase.

In 1924, Long Beach formed the Park and Highway Commission to manage the growing municipal park system. In 1929, a City Charter amendment established a nine-member Recreation Commission and the Coordinated Municipal and School Recreation Program was formed. Expansion of the park system continued during the 1930's. Funds from the federal Works Progress Administration (WPA) and State Emergency Relief Administration (as a consequence of the 1933 earthquake) supported the development of numerous recreational facilities throughout Long Beach.

During World War II, the City curtailed many recreation activities as a part of the war effort. Weapons installations and troop encampments rendered several parks unusable to the public. Postwar expansion led to the creation of numerous parks and recreation facilities. In 1954, a City Charter amendment established a separate Parks Department. In 1956, a bond issue passed allocating \$4.9 million for parks and recreation improvements, including the acquisition of parkland. In 1961, the Parks Department created a Golf Division and assumed responsibility for the City's five public golf courses.

Due in large part to a burgeoning youth population, a City Recreation Department was established by charter amendment in 1974. The Coordinated Municipal and School Recreation Program, which provided public recreation programming for 45 years, ceased to exist. In 1982, the Recreation Department merged with the Parks Department. It is interesting to note that the Parks Department was also responsible for street landscaping prior to the merger.

The Marine Department, which was originally created in 1956 to operate and maintain the Alamitos Bay Marina, was incorporated in 1987 to create the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine. Finally, in 2001, the Special Events and Filming Bureau was created when the Department assumed responsibility for citywide special events and filming permits.

CURRENT ORGANIZATION

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine is directly responsible to the City Council through the City Manager. The City Manager appoints the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine, who, in turn, directs a management staff professionally qualified by education and experience to administer, implement, and manage the Department.

The Department consists of six bureaus. A brief summary of each follows:

Business Operations Bureau: This bureau is responsible for the functions of payroll; personnel; budget; accounting and purchasing; contracts; concession and lease management, technology systems; and marketing and community information. Four Superintendents report to the Manager of Business Operations.

Community Recreation Services Bureau: This bureau is responsible for all community-based recreation programming, youth services, senior services, youth sports, aquatic facilities and programs, contract class registration, adaptive recreation, special events, day camps and extended day care, adult sports permitting, facility reservations, the mobile skate park and mobile recreation programs, the school based recreation/21st Century program, the operation of El Dorado Regional Park, the park rangers, cultural and community services, mural arts programs, historic preservation and education, natural environment preservation and education, Homeland/MacArthur Park, volunteer programs, and the Long Beach Municipal Band. One General Superintendent and five Superintendents report to the Manager of Community Recreation Services.

Maintenance Operations Bureau: This bureau is responsible for ensuring that all parks, beaches, marinas, community centers, and other facilities under the Department's purview (as have been previously identified) are maintained and improved in an aesthetically pleasing and functional manner. This bureau is also responsible for overseeing the lease agreement for the operation of the City's five golf courses, and for providing as staff support to the Municipal Golf Commission. Five Superintendents report to the Manager of Maintenance Operations.

Planning and Development: This bureau is responsible for the preparation and management of the Department's Capital Improvement Program, with projects in parks, marinas, and beach areas and for grant development. The bureau is also responsible for coordinating with the Public Works Department regarding the planning, funding, and completion of capital projects, working with the Planning and Building Department regarding the Open Space and Conservation Elements of the General Plan, and interfacing with regional, state, and federal regulatory and funding agencies concerning environmental issues including water quality, beach erosion, dredging, and habitat preservation. This bureau is also responsible for the oversight of the Rancho Los Cerritos. One Superintendent and one Historic Sites Officer report to the Manager of Planning and Development.

Marine: This bureau is responsible for the management and development of the City's three marinas, navigable waterways, launch ramps, and beach facilities. One Superintendent reports to the Manager of the Marine Bureau. Additionally, the bureau is responsible for providing staff support to the Marine Advisory Committee.

Special Events and Filming: This bureau is responsible for the permitting and coordination of all major special events in the City, including those taking place in the Greater Queensway Bay Area (e.g., Grand Prix, Gay Pride), Queen Mary Special Events Park, beaches (e.g., Beach Fest), and City streets (e.g., parades, car shows). The Manager of Special Events and Filming is also responsible for the permitting and coordination of all motion picture filming in the City, and for managing the Street Banner Program.

A current organizational chart can be found in Appendix 1.

By City Charter, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine supports several advisory bodies that are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. These include:

- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Municipal Golf Commission
- Marine Advisory Commission
- Senior Citizens Advisory Commission
- Commission on Youth and Children

PLANNING RESPONSIBILITY

Parks, recreation and marine facilities should be an integral element of all City land-use planning and zoning. Such planning and zoning should embrace not only areas to be acquired for the City park or recreation system, but maximum use should also be made of zoning and other regulatory powers to preserve open space, protect scenic values and otherwise enhance recreational opportunities in private developments as well.

The Department supports ordinances and zoning changes that will tend to preserve public open spaces and areas of significant natural resources as a regular part of the City development process. This is being accomplished through the constant updating of subdivision regulations, developer fees, and other creative mechanisms. On October 15, 2002, the City Council adopted a revised "Open Space and Recreation Element" of the City's General Plan. This was a significant achievement, as this element had not been updated for nearly 30 years.

The City of Long Beach endeavors to protect existing park, recreation and marine areas against both public and private encroachment and should yield such areas for other purposes only upon the condition that areas lost are replaced by others of comparable value that serve the same population. Potential losses should be viewed as to their affect on the entire management system concerned.

FINANCES

Parks and recreation programs and maintenance responsibilities are basically financed through general taxation, known as the General Fund, while the Marine Bureau activities are financed through the Tidelands Enterprise Fund. Departmental services are supplemented by such sources as general obligation and revenue bonding, donations of money, loans, Federal and State Assistance Programs, gifts, services from private individuals and groups, and user fees and charges. Parks and recreation programs are generally financed through the City General Fund budget, special districts, contractual services, matching funds and other methods by which those benefited will pay the costs.

The Department strongly supports the concept that users of certain kinds of public park and recreation facilities and programs should pay fees for such use. Revenue from this source should be deposited in separate accounts and be applied to the development, maintenance, and administration of parks and recreation programs. Fees should not be so high as to prevent those in modest circumstances from enjoying the benefits of public parks and recreation programs. Basically, youth recreation programs and youth sports are free of charge in the City of Long Beach.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE

