

City Clerk

REDONDO BEACH RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT
320 Knob Hill Redondo Beach, CA 90277
(310-318-0610, X3466)

**REGULAR MEETING OF
THE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION**
Wednesday, January 13, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
Main Library Meeting Room, 303 North Pacific Coast Highway

DISTRIBUTION:

MEMBERS OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

Lang Boston
Jill Brunkhardt
Sandra Buchan
Lorraine Geittmann
Maureen Ferguson Lewis
Lelia Jayne Knight
Don Vangeloff

Mayor and City Council
William P. Workman, City Manager
Eleanor Manzano, City Clerk
Michael Witzansky, Recreation and Community Services Director
Steve Huang, City Engineer
Sylvia Glazer, Public Works Director
Main Library
Community Based Officers, RBPD

Beach Reporter
Time Warner Cable
Daily Breeze
Easy Reader

AGENDA—REGULAR MEETING
REDONDO BEACH RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2010
REDONDO BEACH MAIN LIBRARY MEETING ROOM
303 NORTH PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY
7:00 P.M.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER
ROLL CALL
SALUTE TO THE FLAG

A. PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

B. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF AGENDA

C. CONSENT CALENDAR

Business items, except those formally noticed for public hearing, or those pulled for discussion, are assigned to the Consent Calendar. The Chairperson or any member of the Commission may request that any Consent Calendar item(s) be removed, discussed, and acted upon separately. Items removed from the Consent Calendar will be taken up under the "Excluded Consent Calendar" or "Member Items and Referrals to Staff" sections below. Those items remaining on the Consent Calendar will be approved in one motion following Oral Communications.

C1. Approve Affidavit of Posting of the Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting of January 13, 2010

C2. Approve Minutes of the Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting of November 18, 2009

C3. Strategic Plan Update

D. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Anyone wishing to address the Recreation and Parks Commission on any Consent Calendar item on the agenda, which has not been pulled for discussion may do so at this time. Each speaker will be permitted to speak only once and comments will be limited to a total of three minutes.

E. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

This section is intended to provide members of the public with the opportunity to comment on any subject that does not appear on this agenda for action. This section is limited to 30 minutes. Each speaker will be afforded three minutes to address the Commission. Each speaker will be permitted to speak only once. Written requests, if any, will be considered first under this section.

G. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS

None.

H. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION

H1. Consideration of Options to Permit Dogs in Czuleger Park

Staff recommends that the Recreation and Parks Commission:

- 1) Recommend to the City Council whether or not to permit dogs in Czuleger Park; and
- 2) Provide input on the manner in which dogs could be allowed in Czuleger Park.

CONTACT: Mike Witzansky, Recreation and Community Services Director

I. COMMISSIONER REFERRALS TO STAFF

Referrals to staff are service requests that will be entered in the City's Customer Service Center for action.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Recreation and Parks Commission of the City of Redondo Beach will be a special meeting to be held on March 22, 2010 in the Main Library Meeting Room.

It is the intention of the City of Redondo Beach to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee or a participant at this meeting you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, the City will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact the City Clerk's Office at (310) 318-0656 at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting to inform us of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible. Please advise us at that time if you will need accommodations to attend or participate in meetings on a regular basis.

An Agenda Packet is available 24 hours a day at the Redondo Beach Police Department and at www.redondo.org under the City Clerk. Agenda packets are available during Library hours, at the Reference Desk at both the Redondo Beach Main Library and North Branch Library. During City Hall hours, Agenda Packets are also available for review in the Office of the City Clerk.

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Recreation and Parks Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the City Clerk's Counter at City Hall located at 415 Diamond Street, Door C, Redondo Beach, California during normal business hours. In addition, such writings and documents will be posted, time permitting, on the City's website at www.redondo.org.

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

Margareet Wood declares:

I certify that I am over the age of 18 years and am employed at the City of Redondo Beach, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California.

On January 7 at 1:30 p.m. I posted the following:

Notice of Regular Meeting of the Redondo Beach Recreation and Parks Commission
scheduled for January 13, 2010

at door A, City Hall, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on January 7, 2010, at Redondo Beach, California.

Margareet Wood

**MINUTES OF THE
REDONDO BEACH RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 18, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Recreation and Parks Commission was called to order by Chairperson Brunkhardt at 7:08 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 415 Diamond Street.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Buchan, Brunkhardt, Knight, Lewis, Vangeloff
Commissioners Absent: Boston, Geittmann
Officials Present: Joe Lodinsky, Maintenance Supervisor
Michael Witzansky, Recreation and Community Services Director
Margareet Wood, Recording Secretary

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Buchan led the members in the salute to the flag.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director Witzansky pointed out the late start of the meeting due to a fire alarm, which turned out to be false.

APPROVAL OF ORDER OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Knight, seconded by Commissioner Vangeloff, to approve the order of agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

- Approve affidavit of posting for the Special Recreation and Parks Commission meeting of November 18, 2009
- Approve minutes from the Recreation and Parks Commission meeting of October 14, 2009

Director Witzansky pointed out that goal #7 on page G of the Strategic Plan is relevant to agenda item H1, Temporary Restoration of Basketball Court Play at Dale Page Park.

Motion by Commissioner Knight, seconded by Commissioner Vangeloff, to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS

None.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION

Temporary Restoration of Basketball Court Play at Dale Page Park

Director Witzansky explained that staff efforts have been made over the past three years to resolve the issue between residents and basketball players at Dale Page Park. He said that complaints about noise and the use of profanity as a result of basketball court play have been registered by residents, and the police department was called on two separate occasions. He described the location of the park which borders a residential property. He said that in spite of mitigation measures including: reaching out to players, limiting park hours of use to 8:30 p.m., and improving signage, the problems were not completely prevented; therefore the Recreation and Parks Commission recommended to eliminate play for two months. One court was restored; however in June 2009 complaints began again and the court was removed in August. He said some residents are satisfied; although other residents and basketball groups have requested to have the court restored. He also said that the Redondo Youth Basketball Association could benefit from an additional court in north Redondo Beach. He concluded with staff's recommendation to reopen one full court through March 2010 at which time the situation will be reassessed. He said the long-term goal is to relocate the court to a more suitable venue.

Director Witzansky answered that he received no complaint calls between October 2008 and May 2009, and that 16 calls were registered from October 2007 through October 2008. He said specific names are not available from the call log at this time. He concluded that it is staff's experience that the noise issue decreases during the winter months due to the environment and hours of use.

Director Witzansky answered that the court closest to the residences was reinstalled in October 2008 because the adjacent court contains a large crack. He said that crack has not been repaired.

Don Madden, resident, commented that the basketball court lights turn off at 8:00 p.m.; therefore there should be no late-night problems. He also believed that not all of the police incidents are related to basketball play.

Director Witzansky said the details of the incidents can be confirmed through police records.

Mr. Madden stated that Dale Page Park has existed for 40 years with the same noise; however the noise complaints are relatively recent. He requested to know how many people are complaining. He said he has lived next to the park for 12 years, and he hardly notices noise from the park even with his windows open during the summer. He said that the language coming from the park is not clear enough to determine whether or not it is profane. He suggested that a sound wall could be built or trees could be planted to abate the noise.

Ken Sharp, resident, reported that when the basketball hoops were removed, the signs posted by the City were burned off and thrown in his yard. He reported a police call where players used profanity and threatened to vandalize a neighbor's house. He said that profanity can be heard throughout the day, and he felt the residents' rights are being violated if the hoops are reinstalled. He suggested that climbing structures could be installed on the court; or the court could remain as an open space.

Mr. Sharp answered that he lives directly next to the wall at the park and he hears noise all the time, including wintertime. He also said that his neighbors complain about the noise.

Mr. Madden requested that the Commissioners visit the park during the weekend to witness the basketball court during play.

Director Witzansky acknowledged that noise can be heard from the courts. He also stated that he has received a number of calls from residents who want the courts reinstalled. He said the current recommendation could be an opportunity to strike a balance between the basketball players and the neighbors.

Director Witzansky answered that an escalation in complaints occurred in May through July 2009; and that there were few complaints during the winter months. He said there were incidents where the police were called. He said he did not have the data regarding the destruction of city property when the signs were thrown into Mr. Sharp's yard. He answered that he did not see the sign that was burned and the police department has not informed him of the burned sign. He recalled that staff was informed by Mr. Sharp that something was thrown in his yard; however he was not specifically aware of threats of vandalism. He said the rims were removed on August 4 after an incident was reported by the police department.

Commissioner Vangeloff stated that additional statistical information about the calls to the police department would be beneficial.

Mr. Sharp confirmed that he informed Administrative Analyst Matusa when the sign was thrown in his yard one year ago.

Commissioner Vangeloff said it sounds reasonable to reinstall the hoops for a specific period of time; however the lack of specific information about the complaints complicates that decision.

Director Witzansky said that a police call log can be provided. He said his recollection of the log is that there was not a single call related to basketball play at Dale Page Park during the winter months.

Commissioner Knight agreed with Commissioner Vangeloff's comments. She stated she would like to have the hoops reinstalled; however she was concerned about the vandalism and threats.

Director Witzansky suggested that removing and reinstalling the hoops depending on the escalation of incidents is a sustainable practice and could become a policy.

Commissioner Knight supported continued provision for basketball play.

Mr. Sharp stated that a heavy plastic juice bottle was also thrown in his yard. He felt the residents' rights should be protected.

Director Witzansky said a similar court situation exists at General Eaton Parkette; and noise complaints have not been received for that location. He added that residents and non-residents have requested to reinstall the Dale Page courts.

Commissioner Buchan expressed concern that the situation could escalate into a dangerous incident.

Director Witzansky answered that there is not an effective way to police the park; therefore the basketball courts will continue to operate on a drop-in basis.

Paul Stillions, resident, submitted a petition signed by residents in support of reinstalling the courts.

Motion by Commissioner Vangeloff, seconded by Commissioner Buchan, to receive and file the petition submitted by Mr. Stillions. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Stillions felt that eliminating abuse of the park is not possible by removing the basketball rims because skateboarding, biking, or other competitive recreation will continue. He questioned the City's laws regarding profanity and sound levels. He recommended that the individuals who are causing the problems are cited by the police department. He felt that a sound wall on the residents' side is the only resolution to the current problem. He said that eliminating basketball play is extreme, and he requested that staff allow play at Dale Page Park until an alternative location can be provided. He said the other audience members with him feel the same way.

Mr. Stillions answered that the petition was posted at a small store near Dale Page Park for one week.

Mr. Stillions answered that full courts at Anderson Park would be an acceptable alternative.

Director Witzansky answered that when the police were called in July, a formal report was filed; however no one was cited and no property vandalism was reported. He said that incident, along with the previous escalation of calls, prompted the removal of the rims.

Commissioner Vangeloff felt the residents are seeking proactive management. He suggested that locking devices, which he offered to donate, are installed on the basketball rims to regulate play.

Director Witzansky explained that Recreation and Community Services staff members visited the courts on various days and spoke with the groups to discuss the issue and alert them that their resources were at risk. He said that dialogue can be reengaged; however continuous policing of the park is not possible. He answered that Redondo Beach Youth Basketball League has requested to use the courts between the hours of 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Commissioner Vangeloff requested the acceleration of the March 2010 report to address a permanent location for the basketball courts.

Commissioner Vangeloff suggested that Mr. Sharp speak to his Councilmember.

Commissioner Buchan recalled that basketball play was previously available at Anderson Park.

Director Witzansky committed to removing the rims in March 2010.

Marcus Burris, resident, stated that he has been playing basketball at Dale Page Park for many years and has not witnessed vandalism or threats. He said the day the police were called, one individual was evicted from the park. He commented that noise is inherent to parks.

Commissioner Vangeloff pointed out the distinction between basketball noise and loud, excessive profanity; and he felt that residents have a right for the City to do something about the few individuals who cause problems.

Mr. Burris mentioned that Mr. Sharp was the only person who attended the meeting to complain about the noise.

Director Witzansky stated that he received calls from other persons voicing concern about the noise and also that a petition was signed by residents who complained about the noise. He clarified that the initial incident of vandalism occurred a year ago when the signs were posted and that documented issues of vandalism have not occurred in the most recent incidents.

Mr. Sharp then circulated the City sign to close the courts, which, he said, had been removed from the courts by burning.

Motion by Commissioner Vangeloff, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, to receive and circulate the sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Madden said that occasionally items appear in his yard too, and he does not regard them as hazardous.

Director Witzansky said that if the court is restored, staff views it as a temporary installation; and if escalation of the problem occurs, staff will stay proactive and take administrative action if necessary. He said that interim statistics and more information on the police call log can be provided.

Director Witzansky answered that escalation is defined as documented information of noise and incidents on a confirmed basis which staff feels is a true escalation and could be based upon a combination of things such as staff observation, dialogue with neighbors, and documented calls that are attributable to late night play.

Mr. Sharp advised that Analyst Matusa informed him the Commission would permanently remove the courts if he informed them about the signs being thrown in his yard a year ago; however he declined to do that.

Mr. Sharp answered that the problem with the solution to reinstall the hoops until March and monitor escalation is that it cannot be regulated.

Commissioner Vangeloff mentioned the Commission's responsibility to encourage recreation and he supported a long-term solution.

Commissioner Knight requested to readdress the issue in January 2010.

Motion by Chairperson Brunkhardt, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, to approve the staff recommendation to restore one full basketball court at Dale Page Park for the period of November 2009 through March 2010 with the stipulation that if noise and profanity escalate, the court will be removed. Motion carried unanimously.

Director Witzansky stated an update will be provided in January 2010. He also said he will reach out to the police department to let them know about the reinstallation of the rims.

Mr. Sharp answered that the Neighborhood Watch group in his area is inactive.

Approval of 2010 Meeting Schedule

Director Witzansky stated that City Council adopted an ordinance amending the Redondo Beach Municipal Code to temporarily reduce the minimum number of commission meetings required to six per year. He recommended that the 2010 calendar is adopted and that meetings are held on January 13, March 22, May 12, July 14, September 8, and November 10.

He noted that the January and March meetings will be held in the Main Library Meeting Room during City Council renovation.

Motion by Chairperson Brunkhardt, seconded by Commissioner Buchan, to approve the 2010 Recreation and Community Services calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

Director Witzansky advised that City Council directed the Recreation and Parks Commission to discuss the concept of allowing dogs in Czuleger Park. He said that discussion will occur at the January 2010 meeting.

Director Witzansky answered that petitions from dog owners originated the issue of allowing dogs in Czueleger Park. He said that interested residents will be notified of the January meeting.

COMMISSIONER REFERRALS TO STAFF

Commissioner Vangeloff complimented Seaside Ice and staff for the great activity at Seaside Lagoon.

Chairperson Brunkhardt reported that the Alta Vista field was recently damaged by vehicles.

Motion by Chairperson Brunkhardt, seconded by Commissioner Knight, to adjourn the meeting.

Chairperson Brunkhardt adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m. to the next regular meeting on January 13, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Witzansky, Director

CITY OF REDONDO BEACH STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

September 14, 2009 – March 1, 2010

HBT=Harbor, Business and Transit FS = Financial Services PW=Public Works RCS= Recreation and Community Services ACM=Asst. City Manager

THREE-YEAR GOAL: IMPROVE PUBLIC FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

WHEN	WHO	WHAT	STATUS			COMMENTS
			ON TARGET	REVISED	NOT DONE	
1. By September 22, 2009	ACM	Meet with the Veterans' Memorial Committee to review the City Council's approved tasks listed in the June 16, 2009 Budget Response Report to design and construct a new Veterans' Park Memorial and review the responsibilities of the Veterans' Memorial Committee.	X			Meeting held with Committee on October 5.
2. At the February 2, 2010, City Council meeting	City Engineer	Present to the City Council for action the award of a contract for the construction of the Esplanade Improvement Project.		X		REVISED to February 2, 2010.
3. By December 15, 2009	HBT Director	Present to the City Council for action the design and schedule for repair, replacement or removal of bus shelters throughout the city.		X		Engineering is addressing previously unknown ADA and NPDES requirements to ensure federal compliance.
4. By February 1, 2010	City Engineer	Present to the City Council for action the purchase of furnishings, furniture and equipment for the North Branch Library.			X	

5. At the February 2, 2010 City Council meeting, upon receipt of the stimulus money	Public Works Director	Present to the City Council for action the specs for the LED Streetlight Project.	X		
6. By March 1, 2010	City Engineer	Ensure that the construction of the North Branch Library is 50% complete.	X		
7. By March 1, 2010	City Engineer	Begin construction of the Esplanade Improvement Project.	X		
8. At the March 2, 2010 City Council meeting	City Engineer	Present to the City Council for action plans and specifications for the Transit Center.	X		

THREE-YEAR GOAL: ENHANCE FINANCIAL VIABILITY AND EXPAND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES, ESPECIALLY IN THE COMMERCIAL AREAS

WHEN	WHO	WHAT	STATUS		COMMENTS
			ON TARGET	ON TARGET	
1. At the October 6, 2009 City Council meeting	Planning Director	Provide the draft EIR to the City council regarding the South Bay South Project.	X		EIR distributed to M&CC on Oct. 17; Planning Commission hearing Dec. 17
2. At the October 6, 2009 City Council meeting and monthly thereafter	Mayor's Ad Hoc MLPA Committee (Mayor-lead, Council Members Brand and Kilroy, HBT Director)	Monitor, participate and advocate the City's position on the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) and report the results to the City Council.			
3. At the October 20, 2009 City Council meeting	Audit Committee (Mayor Gin - lead)	Complete the review of the internal service fund allocations and methodology and report the results to the City Council.			
4. At the January 19, 2009 City Council meeting	Asst. City Manager	Present to the City Council for action a lease for the Marine Avenue site.		X	Lease terms close to being finalized. Lease to be prepared.
5. March 3, 2009	HBT Director	Present to the City Council for action options for Phase II of the Harbor Resort website.		X	Pending CC direction on December 15, 2009.
6. At the December 15, 2009 City Council meeting	City Manager	Report to the City Council the results of the Roundtable's Phases III and IV branding effort.	X		

7. At the January 19, 2010 City Council meeting	Asst. City Manager and Public Works Director, working with interested stakeholders	Report to the City Council on the feasibility of using the Inglewood and 405 vacant gas station as a CNG station.			X	Recently met to discuss CNG site options.
8. On December 17, 2009	Planning Director, working with the Planning Commission	Conduct a public hearing on the South Bay South Project.		X		Planning Commission hearing Dec. 17
9. At the February 17, 2010 City Council meeting	City Treasurer, working with the Budget and Finance Commission	Report to the City Council at the mid-year budget review potential alternative strategies to protect the investment portfolio.			X	Initial report presented to Budget & Finance Comm. on 11-12-09, with follow up 1-14-10. Final report to CC 2- 17-10 as part of mid- year fiscal review.
10. At the March 2, 2010 City Council meeting	City Attorney and City Engineer	Report to the City Council on options that may assist businesses in their compliance with ADA requirements and potential options for businesses to achieve ADA certification.		X		
11. At the March 2, 2010 City Council meeting	City Manager, working with a North Redondo Beach Business Working Group	Complete and present to the City Council a Strategic Plan.		X		
FUTURE: By _____	ACM	Develop policies and procedures regarding part-time employees and how they are managed.				
FUTURE: By _____	ACM, working with the Dir. of Building & Engineering	Develop incentives for projects that meet green standards and environmental sustainability goals.				

THREE-YEAR GOAL: ENHANCE AND REVITALIZE THE HARBOR AND PIER AREA

WHEN	WHO	WHAT	STATUS			COMMENTS
			CODE	DATE	REVISOR	
1. At the November 3, 2009 City Council meeting	ACM and HBT Director	Present to the City Council for action a lease for 655 North Harbor Blvd.	X			Approved by CC at Oct. 6, 2009 CC mtg.
2. At the January 19, 2010 City Council meeting	Planning Director (lead), Mayor Gin, Council Member Brand and HBT Director	Obtain a schedule from Resnick Pier Leasehold regarding the revitalization construction plans and report the results to the City Council.		X		Two project meetings conducted on design and project scope. Schedule can now be developed. Anticipate report to Council on January 19, 2010
3. At the January 5, 2010 City Council meeting	ACM and HBT Director	Present to the City Council an update on the Pier Parcel 10 proposals.			X	Pending information from interested party expected after cut off for 1/5/10 council mtg.
4. By March 1, 2010	RCS Director and City Engineer	Report to the City Council the action by the LA Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding a new NPDES permit for continued operation of the Seaside Lagoon.			X	
5. At the March 2, 2010 City Council meeting, pending outcome of final harbor zoning	ACM (lead), Planning Director, Mayor Gin, Council Member Brand and HBT Director	Review with Decron Leasehold their plans and construction schedule and report the results to the City Council.			X	

THREE-YEAR GOAL: ENHANCE THE LIVABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR COMMUNITY

WHEN	WHO	WHAT	STATUS	COMMENTS
1. At the November 24, 2009 special City Council meeting	Planning Director	Present to the City Council for action the draft Housing and Circulation Element of the General Plan to the City Council.	X	
2. At the November 24, 2009 special City Council meeting	Planning Director	Review the recommendations made by the Growth Management and Traffic Committee and develop and present a priority matrix to the City Council for action.	X	
3. At the November 24, 2009 special City Council meeting	City Manager and City Attorney	Present a report to the City Council on the impact of AB 32 (greenhouse gases and land use) and SB 375 (Senate version) and report to the City Council.	X	
4. At the February 2, 2010	City Engineer and City Attorney	Present to the City Council for action an agreement with Edison for the operation of the Catalina Fountain.		REVISED -- Negotiations with Edison continue.
5. At the January 5, 2010 City Council meeting	City Attorney (lead), Planning Dir., Police Chief, City Engineer	Present to the City Council for action an ordinance to control and enforce management of commercial and residential "nuisance properties".	X	
6. At the January 19, 2010 City Council meeting	PW Director	Present to the City Council for action a RFP package (draft contract and specs) for solid waste services.	X	

7. By March 1, 2010	RCS Director	Determine the feasibility of relocating the Dale Page Park full basketball court to an alternative North Redondo Beach location and present the results to the City Council.	X		
8. At the March 2, 2010 City Council meeting	City Manager	Present to the City Council for action the feasibility and potential timing of a Landscape and Lighting supplemental assessment and a bond issue for a public safety facility.	X		
FUTURE: By _____	City Attorney (lead), PW Director, Police Chief	Present to the City Council for direction options for an ordinance controlling leaf blowing noise and emissions.			
FUTURE: By _____	Mayor and City Manager, with input from related task forces	Create a 2018 Sustainability Strategic Plan, including Mission, Vision, Guiding Principles, Goals and Objectives.			
FUTURE: By _____	City Attorney and RCS Director	Present to the City Council for action a resolution to support regional efforts to acquire and restore open space.			

THREE-YEAR GOAL: ENHANCE PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SERVICES FOR OUR COMMUNITY

WHEN	WHO	WHAT	STATUS			COMMENTS
			ADVISORY	ON PAROLE	REQUIRED	
1. At the November 3, 2009 City Council meeting	Fire Chief and IT Director	Evaluate, recommend for purchase and present to the City Council for action a contract for replacement of the Fire Department Records Management System.		X		Records Management Software and Licensing contracts selected and approved for purchase by CC on 11/17/09. IT staff to begin Network configuration in 1/10 followed by in-house training for FD personnel on 3/1/10.
2. At the March 2, 2010 City Council meeting	Police Chief (lead), City Attorney, RCS Director	Present to the City Council for action an ordinance revisiting park rules.			X	Ordinance is being drafted.
3. At the November 17, 2009 City Council meeting	City Engineer and Police Chief	Propose options to the City Council for action to enhance traffic safety measures around some of the parkettes.		X		City Council approved enhanced pedestrian awareness measures at Ford Parkette on 8-18-09.
4. By March 1, 2010	Fire Chief	Present to the City Manager conceptual options for consolidation of fire protection services with the City of Hermosa Beach.			X	Date revised to 3/1/10 is necessary due to complexity of process and info gathering.
5. At the March 2, 2010 City Council meeting	City Manager and ACM	Continue to pursue funding opportunities for an Emergency Operations Center in North Redondo and report the results to the City Council.		X		

FUTURE: By _____	Police Chief and Council Member Aust	Present to the City Council for action options to limit oversize vehicles from city streets.				
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Administrative Report

Commission Action Date: January 13, 2010

To: MEMBERS OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

From: MICHAEL WITZANSKY, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

Subject: CONSIDERATION OF OPTIONS TO PERMIT DOGS IN CZULEGER PARK

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) Recommend to the City Council whether or not to permit dogs in Czuleger Park; and
- 2) Provide input on the manner in which dogs could be allowed in Czuleger Park.

BACKGROUND

As part of its longstanding commitment to provide safe, family-friendly, well maintained and fully open and accessible parkland for its residents, the City has prohibited dogs in parks since 1979. This prohibition has enabled the City to maintain grass areas, walkways and children's play areas that are clean and free of dog urine and fecal matter, and to ensure that seniors, children and other park users are not at risk of being bitten or tripped by dogs running underfoot. It has also enabled the City to utilize best management park maintenance practices that ensure healthy, non-degraded turf and non-contaminated water run-off. Finally, it has enabled the City to conserve scarce resources by having in place a clear and easily enforceable rule and by reducing the amount of code enforcement necessary for policing dog-related incidents in parks.

Though dogs are not permitted in parks, the City made it a priority to provide a dedicated recreational space for dogs over 15 years ago, when few other communities in the State were doing so. In 1993, the three-acre Redondo Beach Dog Park, one of the largest in Los Angeles County, was opened in Dominguez Park. The facility, which is operated by the volunteer group Friends of the Redondo Beach Dog Park and maintained by the City, provides separate fenced areas for large and small dogs, as well as dog drinking fountains, benches and shade trees. Because the dog park is centrally located and offers a significant amount of acreage for off-leash dogs, it has become a very popular and heavily used facility in the City. The dog park is open seven days per week from dawn to dusk, with the exception of Wednesdays from 7:30 a.m. - noon, when it is closed for maintenance.

While the City is attempting to balance the park and recreational needs of all residents, there are a number of people in the community who would like to see additional park

Administrative Report

Options to Permit Dogs in Czuleger Park

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space opened to or made available for their dogs. These residents have noted that the dog park is the only facility in Redondo Beach that provides public open space where dogs can run without a leash. The Municipal Code prohibits dogs in parks and on the Pier, and owners must keep their dogs on-leash when walking them in other public areas. The resident dog owners have noted that all of the other South Bay cities permit dogs in their parks, though few of the cities provide a dedicated dog park or dog run.

The City Council addressed this issue at its November 17, 2009 meeting, accepting a number of resident petitions requesting "dog friendly" parks, and discussing the possibility of opening Czuleger Park to dogs. Czuleger Park is a rolling 3.3 acre park that runs from Catalina Avenue at Diamond Street past the Seascope Condominiums down to the Pier (see attached aerial map). Because the park is often used as a throughway to the Pier/Harbor area and has few amenities, it was identified as a recreational space that could potentially accommodate dogs. The City Council discussion took note of the resident interest in making additional park space available for dogs, but the Council also voiced concern regarding the health and sanitation issues associated with the presence of dogs in a park. After taking public input, primarily from dog owners in attendance, the City Council moved that the item be submitted to the Recreation and Parks Commission at its January meeting for input and recommendations.

Options Related to Permitting Dogs in Czuleger Park

As indicated above, the City Council has requested that the Recreation and Parks Commission recommend whether or not dogs should be permitted in Czuleger Park, as well as provide input regarding the manner in which dogs should be permitted in the park if so recommended. Staff has developed the following options for the Commission to consider when making its recommendation: 1) continue to prohibit dogs in the park; 2) permit dogs to traverse the park on designated walkways; 3) permit on-leash dogs in the park; 4) permit off-leash dogs in the park; 5a) construct a fenced dog run on the private property adjacent to the park; and 5b) construct a fenced dog run in the park. Option 5a would involve working with the owners and management of the Seascope Condominiums to provide a dog run on their property, which is adjacent to Czuleger Park. The option is hypothetical at this point, as staff has not presented the idea to the Seascope owners and does not know if the owners have the interest and the funding necessary to construct and operate a dog park. The pros and cons related to each of these options are discussed below.

Option 1: Continue to Prohibit Dogs in Czuleger Park

Pros:

- The City could continue to operate the park as a safe, family-friendly and fully open and accessible facility for its residents.

- The City would not have to divert code enforcement resources to ensure that dog obedience and clean-up rules are followed in the park.
- The City would not have to divert maintenance staff resources to provide continuous turf replacement and clean-up services at the park.
- Seniors, families with small children and other residents would not be discouraged from using the park.
- The residents of the adjacent Seascape Condominiums would not be affected by a dramatic change in the use of this park.
- The City would be able to ensure that water run-off from the park is not contaminated.

Cons:

- The Redondo Beach Dog Park would be the only "dog friendly" park in the City.
- South Redondo Beach dog owners who cannot get to Dominguez Park would not have a near-by alternative.
- Residents wishing to simply walk their dogs in a park setting would not have any options in Redondo Beach.

Option 2: Permit Dogs to Traverse Czuleger Park on Designated Walkways

Pros:

- Residents would be able to walk their dogs in a park setting.
- Residents would be able to use the park as a throughway when walking their dogs, rather than taking longer, alternate routes.
- The residents of the adjacent Seascape Condominiums would have a near-by location for dog walking.
- If dogs were to be permitted in the park, the City's maintenance and enforcement costs would be the least under this option.
- Residents who prefer dog-free recreational areas could stay away from the dog paths and use other parts of the park.

Cons:

- Dog urine and fecal matter would create health and sanitation issues along the dog path areas.
- The clean-up of dog fecal matter along the dog paths would require some additional maintenance staff hours.
- Additional code enforcement would be needed to ensure that dogs remain on the designated walkways.
- The presence of dogs in a general use park could create liability issues for the City: Dogs, even on-leash, can be disruptive and get into fights with other dogs. Additionally, residents using the dog walkways could be bitten by a dog.
- Residents walking their dogs through Czuleger Park might be inclined to proceed to the Pier, where dogs are prohibited.

Option 3: Permit On-Leash Dogs in Czuleger Park

Pros:

- Residents would be able to walk their dogs in a park setting.
- Residents would be able to visit a park with their dogs in tow.
- Residents who are not able to use or cannot get to the dog park would have an alternative for their dogs.
- Residents would be able to use the park as a throughway when walking their dogs, rather than taking longer, alternate routes.
- The residents of the adjacent Seascape Condominiums would have a near-by location for dog walking.

Cons:

- Dog urine and fecal matter would create health and sanitation issues and would affect play and recreational opportunities for other park users.
- The clean-up of dog fecal matter would require additional maintenance staff hours and would cause problems with maintenance equipment such as trimmers and mowers.
- Additional code enforcement would be needed to address dog-related incidents.
- The presence of dogs in a general use park could create liability issues for the City: Dogs, even on-leash, can be disruptive and get into fights with other dogs. Additionally, children and other park users could be bitten by a dog.
- There could be a problem with barking, which would affect the residents of the adjacent Seascape Condominiums.
- Persons walking their dogs through Czuleger Park might be inclined to proceed to the Pier, where dogs are prohibited.
- There is little parking available on Catalina Avenue, so many of the dog owners arriving by car would have to park in the Pier area and cross a pedestrian walkway as well as the bicycle path, with their dogs, to get to the park. Additionally, there is no free parking in the vicinity.

Option 4: Permit Off-Leash Dogs in Czuleger Park

Pros:

- Residents would be able to let their dogs run free and socialize in a park setting.
- Residents would be able to visit a park with their dogs in tow.
- South Redondo Beach residents who cannot drive to the dog park would have an alternative for their dogs.
- Residents would be able to use the park as a throughway when walking their dogs, rather than taking longer, alternate routes.
- The residents of the adjacent Seascape Condominiums would have a near-by dog run/exercise area.

Cons:

- Dog urine and fecal matter would create health and sanitation issues and would affect play and recreational opportunities for other park users.
- The clean-up of dog fecal matter would require additional maintenance staff hours and would cause problems with maintenance equipment such as trimmers and mowers.
- Additional code enforcement would be needed to address dog-related incidents.
- The presence of dogs in a general use park could disturb park users and create liability issues for the City: Off-leash dogs could frighten children and seniors, disrupt activities in the park, bite park patrons, and get into fights with other dogs.
- Dogs running off-leash and out of direct control of their owners often bark in the presence of other dogs. The sound of barking dogs would likely be amplified for the residents of the Seascape Condominiums, as the topography of the park creates an echo chamber effect. The condominium residents overwhelmingly rejected the installation of play equipment at this park, because of noise issues.
- Czuleger Park is not fenced. Therefore, off-leash dogs could run straight down to the Pier, where dogs are prohibited. Off-leash dogs could also run to the Seascape Condominium property or out to Catalina Avenue where they could easily be hit by passing cars.
- There is little parking available on Catalina Avenue, so many of the dog owners arriving by car would have to park in the Pier area and cross a pedestrian walkway as well as the bicycle path, with their dogs, to get to the park. Additionally, there is no free parking in the vicinity.

Option 5a: Construct a Fenced Dog Run on the Private Property Adjacent to Czuleger Park

Pros:

- Residents would have a second dedicated park area in the City where their dogs could exercise and socialize off-leash.
- A dog run in Czuleger Park would be convenient for South Redondo Beach residents.
- The residents of the adjacent Seascape Condominiums would have a near-by dog run/exercise area.
- The City would not have to pay for construction and operation of the dog run.

Cons:

- The City would incur additional maintenance/clean-up costs due to dogs walking through Czuleger Park to get to the dog run.
- The City would have to divert Code Enforcement resources to the park, to ensure that owners keep their dogs in the dog run area.
- The presence of dogs in or near the park could deter some residents from using the park.

- Czuleger Park is located in the Coastal Zone, and therefore construction of a dog run in the park would require a Coastal Permit review.
- Persons using the dog run might be inclined to proceed to the Pier, where dogs are prohibited.
- There is little parking available on Catalina Avenue, so many of the dog owners arriving by car would have to park in the Pier area and cross a pedestrian walkway as well as the bicycle path, with their dogs, to get to the dog run. Additionally, there is no free parking in the vicinity.

Option 5b: Construct a Fenced Dog Run in Czuleger Park

Pros:

- Residents would have a second dedicated park area in the City where their dogs could exercise and socialize off-leash.
- A dog run in Czuleger Park would be convenient for South Redondo Beach residents.
- The residents of the adjacent Seascape Condominiums would have a near-by dog run/exercise area.

Cons:

- The City is operating in a difficult fiscal climate and does not currently have funds available to design and construct a dog park.
- The City does not currently have adequate staff resources to operate a dog park.
- Dog park maintenance and clean-up would require significant additional Public Works staff hours.
- Additional code enforcement would be needed to ensure that dogs are kept on-leash and on designated walkways when en route to the dog run.
- The condominium property is located in the Coastal Zone, and therefore construction of a dog run on the property would require a Coastal Permit review.
- Dogs tend to bark when they are put together to exercise and socialize in a dog run. The sound of barking dogs would likely be amplified for the residents of the Seascape Condominiums, as the topography of the park creates an echo chamber effect. The condominium residents overwhelmingly rejected the installation of play equipment at this park, because of noise issues.
- Persons using the dog run might be inclined to proceed to the Pier, where dogs are prohibited.
- There is little parking available on Catalina Avenue, so many of the dog owners arriving by car would have to park in the Pier area and cross a pedestrian walkway as well as the bicycle path, with their dogs, to get to the dog run. Additionally, there is no free parking in the vicinity.

It should be noted that the above-listed options to permit dogs in Czuleger Park were developed by staff simply to facilitate the Commission's discussion and may not be the

only options available for consideration. The City Council is interested in the Commission's input on any and all options regarding dogs in Czuleger Park. Additionally, it is staff's recommendation, given the various pros and cons associated with these options and the current stress on the City's financial and staffing resources, that the Commission recommend that the City Council continue to prohibit dogs in all parks but the Redondo Beach Dog Park.

COORDINATION

Staff members from the Recreation and Community Services Department coordinated with staff members from the Public Works, Police and Planning Departments to develop this report.

FISCAL IMPACT

Each of the identified options to permit dogs in Czuleger Park would have a different fiscal impact. The specific costs have not been determined, but in general it is expected that the greater the level of dog use in the park, the greater the required level of City maintenance and enforcement resources.

Submitted by:



Paula Matusa, Administrative Analyst
Recreation and Community Services

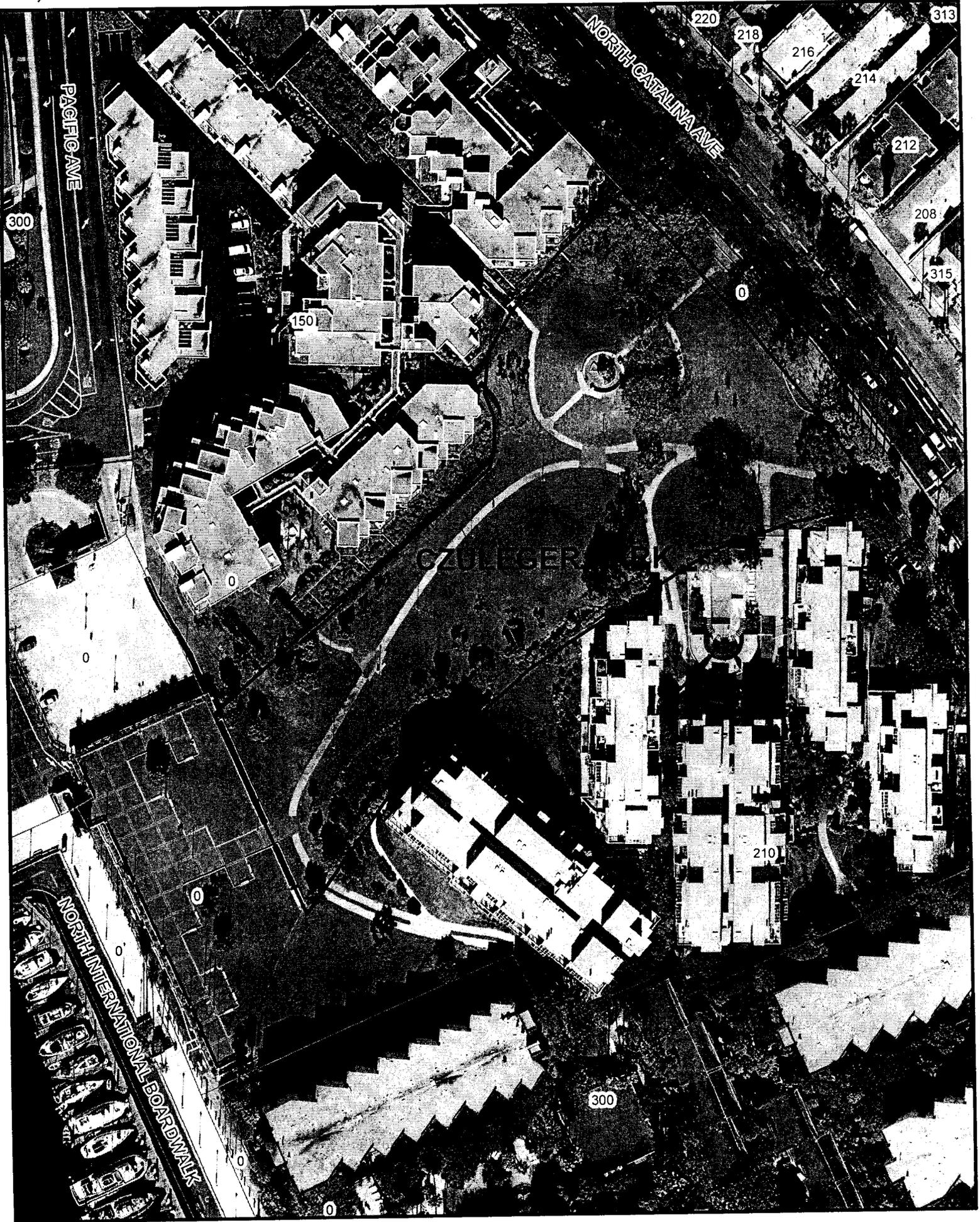
Approved for forwarding by



for Michael Witzansky
Recreation and Community
Services Director

Attachment:

- Czuleger Park Aerial Map



2

0 20 40 80 120 160 Feet

CZULEGER PARK

Director Witzansky stated that he received calls from other persons voicing concern about the noise and also that a petition was signed by residents who complained about the noise. He clarified that the initial incident of vandalism occurred a year ago when the signs were posted and that documented issues of vandalism have not occurred in the most recent incidents.

Mr. Sharp then circulated the City sign to close the courts, which, he said, had been removed from the courts by burning.

Motion by Commissioner Vangeloff, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, to receive and circulate the sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Madden said that occasionally items appear in his yard too, and he does not regard them as hazardous.

Director Witzansky said that if the court is restored, staff views it as a temporary installation; and if escalation of the problem occurs, staff will stay proactive and take administrative action if necessary. He said that interim statistics and more information on the police call log can be provided.

Director Witzansky answered that escalation is defined as documented information of noise and incidents on a confirmed basis which staff feels is a true escalation and could be based upon a combination of things such as staff observation, dialogue with neighbors, and documented calls that are attributable to late night play.

Mr. Sharp advised that Analyst Matusa informed him the Commission would permanently remove the courts if he informed them about the signs being thrown in his yard a year ago; however he declined to do that.

Mr. Sharp answered that the problem with the solution to reinstall the hoops until March and monitor escalation is that it cannot be regulated.

Commissioner Vangeloff mentioned the Commission's responsibility to encourage recreation and he supported a long-term solution.

Commissioner Knight requested to readdress the issue in January 2010.

Motion by Chairperson Brunkhardt, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, to approve the staff recommendation to restore one full basketball court at Dale Page Park for the period of November 2009 through March 2010 with the stipulation that if noise and profanity escalate, the court will be removed. Motion carried unanimously.

Director Witzansky stated an update will be provided in January 2010. He also said he will reach out to the police department to let them know about the reinstallation of the rims.

Mr. Sharp answered that the Neighborhood Watch group in his area is inactive.

Approval of 2010 Meeting Schedule

Director Witzansky stated that City Council adopted an ordinance amending the Redondo Beach Municipal Code to temporarily reduce the minimum number of commission meetings required to six per year. He recommended that the 2010 calendar is adopted and that meetings are held on January 13, March 22, May 12, July 14, September 8, and November 10.

CITY OF REDONDO BEACH STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

September 14, 2009 – March 1, 2010

HBT=Harbor, Business and Transit FS = Financial Services PW=Public Works RCS= Recreation and Community Services ACM=Asst. City Manager

THREE-YEAR GOAL: **IMPROVE PUBLIC FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

WHEN	WHO	WHAT	STATUS	COMMENTS
1. By September 22, 2009	ACM	Meet with the Veterans' Memorial Committee to review the City Council's approved tasks listed in the June 16, 2009 Budget Response Report to design and construct a new Veterans' Park Memorial and review the responsibilities of the Veterans' Memorial Committee.	X	Meeting held with Committee on October 5.
2. At the February 2, 2010, City Council meeting	City Engineer	Present to the City Council for action the award of a contract for the construction of the Esplanade Improvement Project.	X	REVISED to February 2, 2010.
3. By December 15, 2009	HBT Director	Present to the City Council for action the design and schedule for repair, replacement or removal of bus shelters throughout the city.	X	Engineering is addressing previously unknown ADA and NPDES requirements to ensure federal compliance.
4. By February 1, 2010	City Engineer	Present to the City Council for action the purchase of furnishings, furniture and equipment for the North Branch Library.	X	

THREE-YEAR GOAL: ENHANCE FINANCIAL VIABILITY AND EXPAND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES, ESPECIALLY IN THE COMMERCIAL AREAS

WHEN	WHO	WHAT	STATUS			COMMENTS
			DONE	ON TARGET	REVISED	
1. At the October 6, 2009 City Council meeting	Planning Director	Provide the draft EIR to the City council regarding the South Bay South Project.	X			EIR distributed to M&CC on Oct. 17; Planning Commission hearing Dec. 17
2. At the October 6, 2009 City Council meeting and monthly thereafter	Mayor's Ad Hoc MLPA Committee (Mayor-lead, Council Members Brand and Kilroy, HBT Director)	Monitor, participate and advocate the City's position on the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) and report the results to the City Council.				
3. At the October 20, 2009 City Council meeting	Audit Committee (Mayor Gin - lead)	Complete the review of the internal service fund allocations and methodology and report the results to the City Council.				
4. At the January 19, 2009 City Council meeting	Asst. City Manager	Present to the City Council for action a lease for the Marine Avenue site.			X	Lease terms close to being finalized. Lease to be prepared.
5. March 3, 2009	HBT Director	Present to the City Council for action options for Phase II of the Harbor Resort website.			X	Pending CC direction on December 15, 2009.
6. At the December 15, 2009 City Council meeting	City Manager	Report to the City Council the results of the Roundtable's Phases III and IV branding effort.		X		

THREE-YEAR GOAL: ENHANCE AND REVITALIZE THE HARBOR AND PIER AREA

WHEN	WHO	WHAT	STATUS			COMMENTS
			DOVE	ON TARGET	REVISED	
1. At the November 3, 2009 City Council meeting	ACM and HBT Director.	Present to the City Council for action a lease for 655 North Harbor Blvd.	X			Approved by CC at Oct. 6, 2009 CC mtg.
2. At the January 19, 2010 City Council meeting	Planning Director (lead), Mayor Gin, Council Member Brand and HBT Director	Obtain a schedule from Resnick Pier Leasehold regarding the revitalization construction plans and report the results to the City Council.		X		Two project meetings conducted on design and project scope. Schedule can now be developed. Anticipate report to Council on January 19, 2010
3. At the January 5, 2010 City Council meeting	ACM and HBT Director	Present to the City Council an update on the Pier Parcel 10 proposals.			X	Pending information from interested party expected after cut off for 1/5/10 council mtg.
4. By March 1, 2010	RCS Director and City Engineer	Report to the City Council the action by the LA Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding a new NPDES permit for continued operation of the Seaside Lagoon.			X	
5. At the March 2, 2010 City Council meeting, pending outcome of final harbor zoning	ACM (lead), Planning Director, Mayor Gin, Council Member Brand and HBT Director	Review with Decron Leasehold their plans and construction schedule and report the results to the City Council.			X	

7. By March 1, 2010	RCS Director	Determine the feasibility of relocating the Dale Page Park full basketball court to an alternative North Redondo Beach location and present the results to the City Council.	X		
8. At the March 2, 2010 City Council meeting	City Manager	Present to the City Council for action the feasibility and potential timing of a Landscape and Lighting supplemental assessment and a bond issue for a public safety facility.	X		
FUTURE: By _____	City Attorney (lead), PW Director, Police Chief	Present to the City Council for direction options for an ordinance controlling leaf blowing noise and emissions.			
FUTURE: By _____	Mayor and City Manager, with input from related task forces	Create a 2018 Sustainability Strategic Plan, including Mission, Vision, Guiding Principles, Goals and Objectives.			
FUTURE: By _____	City Attorney and RCS Director	Present to the City Council for action a resolution to support regional efforts to acquire and restore open space.			

FUTURE:	By _____	Police Chief and Council Member Aust	Present to the City Council for action options to limit oversize vehicles from city streets.																
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