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Direct questions or concerns to the Commission Liaison John La Rock, Community Services Director at (310) 618-2937 prior to submission to the Commission. Parties will be notified if the complaint will be included on a subsequent agenda.

The Parks and Recreation Commission is an advisory body to the City Council that meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room. All meetings are open to the public.

**TORRANCE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2021
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 P.M. WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM**

THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM LISTED ON THE AGENDA

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commission members Feliz, Korman, Mataallii, Mele, Montoya, Muhammed, Chair Candioty

2. FLAG SALUTE: Commissioner Mele

3. REPORT OF THE CITY CLERK ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website on Thursday, September 2, 2021 /s/ Rebecca Poirier

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to a 30 minute period)

This portion of the meeting is reserved for public comment on items on the agenda or on topics of interest to the general public. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, Commissioners cannot act on items raised during public comment but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. Speakers under this Public Comment period will have no longer than 3 minutes per speaker. Speakers please turn off or leave your cellular phone when you come to the podium to speak.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed by a Commissioner from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JUNE 9, 2021 AND AUGUST 11, 2021

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. Community Services Director – Status of Programming and Projects.

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file updates on the status of programming and projects in the City of Torrance:

- Pandemic Reconstitution and Reopening

- Heal The Bay Coastal Cleanup Month
- Recognition of the Torrance Little League World Series Quarter Finalists
- Budget Challenges

7B. Recreation Services Manager - Report on the currently available Torrance pickleball courts, future court efforts and discussion on potential alterations to the allocation of court time between tennis and pickleball for those courts outfitted to accommodate both sports.

7C. Community Services Director – Review Department Monthly Reports

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that the Parks and Recreation Commission review the Department Monthly Reports for:

- Administrative Services
- Park Services
- Recreation Services

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

9. ADJOURNMENT

9A. Adjournment of the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting to WEDNESDAY, October 13, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission convened via teleconference or other electronic means at 7:03 p.m. on Wednesday, June 9, 2021.

ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE

Present: Commissioners Love, Mataallii, Montoya,
Muhammed, Reilly, and Chairperson Feliz.

Absent: Commissioner Candioly.

Also Present: Community Services Director La Rock,
Park Services Manager Drake,
Acting Recreation Services Manager Craig, and
Senior Administrative Assistant Rosell.

MOTION: Commissioner Reilly moved to grant the excused absence of Commissioner Candioly for this meeting. Commissioner Love seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval (absent Commissioner Candioly).

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Love led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

Senior Administrative Assistant Rosell reported the agenda for this meeting was posted on the Public Notice Board and the City's Website on June 3, 2021.

MOTION: Commissioner Reilly moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda. Commissioner Love seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval (absent Commissioner Candioly).

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS – None.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Senior Administrative Assistant Rosell spoke.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MAY 12, 2021

MOTION: Commissioner Love moved to approve the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes of May 12, 2021 as presented. Commissioner Montoya seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval (absent Commissioner Candioly).

6B. APPROVE SIGNAGE FOR GROUP OPEN PLAY PICKLE BALL HOURS AT SUR LA BREA PARK

Acting Recreation Services Manager Craig provided background on the item and explained group play would allow players of all skill levels to play with a constant rotation of players for maximum play time.

MOTION: Commissioner Montoya moved to approve the signage for group open play hours at Sur La Brea Park. Commissioner Mataallii seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval (absent Commissioner Candioly).

6C. APPROVE THE 2019-2020 LIVING TREE DEDICATION PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

Park Services Manager Drake reported in 2019-2020, seven trees were planted at three different City parks and, in response to Commissioner Montoya's inquiry, she provided additional information about the program.

MOTION: Commissioner Mataallii moved to approve the 2019-2020 Living Tree Dedication Program Annual Report and to forward it to City Council for acceptance and filing. Commissioner Montoya seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval (absent Commissioner Candioly).

6D. RECOMMENDATION THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE MONTH OF JULY AS PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE

MOTION: Commissioner Reilly moved to approve the Proclamation declaring the month of July as Parks and Recreation Month in the City of Torrance. Commissioner Mataallii seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval (absent Commissioner Candioly).

6E. RECOMMENDATION THAT THE COMMISSION NOMINATE AND ELECT THE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION FOR 2021-2022

Chairperson Feliz nominated Commissioner Candioly for Chairperson and Commissioner Reilly nominated Commissioner Mataallii for Vice-Chairperson.

MOTION: Commissioner Reilly moved to elect Commissioner Candioly for Chairperson and Commissioner Mataallii for Vice-Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Commission for 2021-2022 beginning at the August 2021 meeting. Commissioner Muhammed seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval (absent Commissioner Candioly).

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. Community Services Director – Status of Programming and Projects

- Pandemic reconstitution and reopening
Community Services Director La Rock provided an update on reactivation of in-person programming, services, and facilities.
- July 4 Celebration Fireworks Show
Fireworks display at the Civic Center is confirmed.

- Cancellation of July Commission meeting
Park Services Manager Drake invited Commissioners to participate in a service day at Walteria Park for team building and open space beautification.
- Regular and seasonal staffing
Personnel is being hired to accommodate reactivated programming. Senior Recreation Supervisor McClelland is retiring following 42 years of service to the City.

7B. Community Services Director – Review Department Monthly Reports

- Administrative Services
Community Services Director La Rock presented the Administrative Services Division Report – May 2021 included in agenda packets. He highlighted Facility Booking, Park Ranger Program, Coyote Management, Registration, and Home Improvement Program.
- Park Services
Park Services Manager Drake presented the Park Services Monthly Report for May 2021 included in the material of record and answered questions raised by Commissioners Reilly and Love.
- Recreation Services
Acting Recreation Services Manager Craig presented highlights from the attached Recreation Services Monthly Report for May 2021.

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the Commission and staff spoke.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:06 p.m., Commissioner Mataalii moved to adjourn tonight's meeting to June 9, 2021 in honor of Commissioners Love and Reilly for their distinguished service to the City. Commissioner Muhammed seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected approval.

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**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission convened at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 11, 2021 in the West Annex Commission meeting room.

ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE

Present: Commissioners Feliz, Korman, Mataallii, Mele, Montoya, Muhammed, and Chairperson Candioty.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Community Services Director La Rock, Administrative Analyst Lee, and Recreation Services Manager Craig.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Mataallii led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

Chairperson Candioty reported the agenda for this meeting was posted on the Public Notice Board and the City's Website on August 5, 2021.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS – None.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the public spoke.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes were not available.

6B. APPROVAL OF THE 2020-2021 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

Community Services Director La Rock presented the Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Report for July 2020 to June 2021.

MOTION: Commissioner Montoya moved to approve the 2020-2021 Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Report as presented. Commissioner Feliz seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. **Community Services Director – Status of Programming and Projects**

Recommendation of the Community Services Direction that the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file updates on the status of programming and projects in the City.

- Pandemic Reconstitution and Reopening
Community Services Director La Rock provided an update on reactivation of in-person programming, services, and facilities. Resumption of in-person Commission meetings with public attendance and public attendance at City Council meetings.
- Walteria Park Service Day
Community Services Director La Rock expressed appreciation to Commissioners and Park Services staff for making Walteria Park improvements and open space beautification. Photographs in Attachment A.
- Regular and Seasonal Staffing
Introduction of Recreation Services Manager Craig and Administrative Analyst Lee. Personnel continue to be hired to accommodate reactivated programming.
- Skateboard Spot Park Project
Item to be on September Commission meeting agenda.

7B. **Community Services Director – Review Department Monthly Reports**

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that the Parks and Recreation Commission review the Department Monthly Reports for:

- Administrative Services
Community Services Director La Rock presented the Administrative Services Division Report – June and July 2021 included in agenda packets. He highlighted Facility Booking, Park Ranger Program, Coyote Management, Registration, and Home Improvement Program. He responded to Commissioner Montoya's inquiries.
- Park Services
Community Services Director La Rock presented the Park Services Monthly Report for June and July 2021 included in the material of record and answered questions raised by Commissioners Mele, Muhammed, and Chairperson Candioly.
- Recreation Services
Recreation Services Manager Craig presented highlights from the attached Recreation Services Monthly Report for June and July 2021.

MOTION: Commissioner Feliz moved to accept and file the Department Monthly Reports for June and July 2021. Commissioner Mataalii seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

8. **COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Members of the Commission spoke.
Commissioner Montoya distributed information about virtual workshops and online surveys by Los Angeles County.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: At 8:27 p.m., Commissioner Feliz moved to adjourn tonight's meeting to September 8, 2021 in the West Annex meeting room. Commissioner Montoya seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected approval.

###

Subject to Approval

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: JOHN LA ROCK, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: STATUS OF PROGRAMMING AND PROJECTS

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file updates on the status of programming and projects in the City of Torrance:

- Pandemic reconstitution and reopening
 - Resumption of in-person Commission meetings with public attendance
 - Public attendance at City Council meetings effective August 10
 - Maintaining facial covering requirements for all interior City locations
 - Indoor youth sports require vaccination or weekly negative test results for all participants (youth/adult)
 - Outdoor youth sports 12+ require vaccination or weekly negative test results for all participants (youth/adult)
 - Outdoor youth sports under 12 require symptom screening and vaccination or weekly negative test results for adult participants
 - After School Club staff must comply with TUSD site personnel policies to include weekly testing or proof of vaccination

- Heal The Bay Coastal Cleanup Month
 - Community cleanups at Torrance Beach, Sur La Brea Park and Downtown Torrance (see attached flyers)
 - Limited to 50 persons per site; sign-ups will be available online at: <https://coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd.html>

- Recognition of the Torrance Little League World Series Quarter Finalists
 - Potential mini-parade on September 11

- Budget Challenges
 - Vacant positions and various Department programs are being analyzed for potential budget reductions as the pandemic continues to impact City finances

Respectfully submitted,



John La Rock
Community Services Director

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
FROM: GARRETT CRAIG, RECREATION SERVICES MANAGER
SUBJECT: REVIEW OF ALLOCATED PICKLEBALL HOURS AND LOCATIONS

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

At the June 9, 2021, Commission Meeting staff presented an item for signage approval for group open play pickleball hours at Sur La Brea Park. Since that time, interest for expanding locations and hours has increased. Currently, three parks offer shared court hours between tennis and pickleball: Sur La Brea Park, WALTERIA Park, and Wilson Park. WALTERIA Park currently offers senior programs, Wilson Park, and Sur La Brea Park offers group play.

While there has been overall cooperation regarding court usage between both pickleball and tennis users, there were concerns raised at the previous meeting regarding allotted time for pickleball. Due to this feedback, Park and Recreation staff have created a breakdown of locations and hours (see attachment A).

RECOMMENDATION

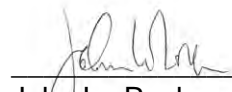
In order to alleviate future concerns, to encourage residents to continue participating in both pickleball and tennis, and to promote the City of Torrance as a central advocator for this both sports; it is the recommendation of the Community Services Director that the Commission host the discussion, gather feedback for review, and provide direction on potential actions.

Respectfully submitted,



Garrett Craig
Acting Recreation Manager

CONCUR:



John La Rock
Community Services Director

Attachments:

- A) Locations and Hours of Pickleball and Tennis Courts
- B) Pickleball News Article

TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL PARK LOCATIONS AND HOURS

	<u>El Retiro Park</u>	<u>Hickory Park</u>	<u>La Romeria Park</u>	<u>Paradise Park</u>	<u>Sur La Brea Park</u>	<u>Walteria Park</u>	<u>Wilson Park</u>
Tennis	2 tennis courts 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.	1 tennis court 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.	1 tennis court 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.	2 tennis courts 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.	2 tennis courts (1 tennis court always available for tennis) 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.	1 tennis court 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.	3 tennis court 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Pickleball	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. 4 <i>overlay courts</i> on 1 tennis court	Monday and Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday: 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. 2 <i>Pickleball/paddleball stand alone courts</i>



Posted on Aug 3, 2021

Under lockdown, Americans of all ages have been spicing things up with a fun new pastime.

Written by Diane Krieger | Photographed by Steve Taylor

Lara Marmelstein had been a highly ranked (5.0) tennis player for more than 30 years when a buddy introduced her to a new racquet sport with a silly name: pickleball. The 54-year-old nurse from San Juan Capistrano was instantly hooked.

“I love, love, love, love pickleball!” Marmelstein gushes. “I love it so much that I gave up tennis. I look forward to playing pickleball until I’m 100.”

She means that literally. With its compact court and low-force volleys, pickleball is senior-friendly and uniquely well-suited for intergenerational play.

“There’s less emphasis on running than in tennis. You can sort of hop over to one side or the other. That’s why older people and children can play,” says Marmelstein, who took up pickleball in 2015.

She had no trouble selling her 85-year-old mother, Mary Lou McCauley, and sister Kelley Mayeda on the sport. The fever quickly spread to Mayeda’s adult sons, Mac and Jacob, and Marmelstein’s own adult children, Mitchel and McKenna. Another sister, Marlo Blandford, and brother-in-law Johnny have since embraced the family pastime.

Marmelstein, who worked at Torrance Memorial for a decade before moving to Orange County in 2000, returns to the South Bay every week. By long-standing tradition, she and her siblings, their spouses and offspring gather on Thursdays at mom’s house in Redondo Beach for “family night.” Then bright and early Friday morning, these self-described “pickleheads” take to the courts at Manhattan Heights Park or Hermosa Beach.

“It’s such a neat thing that I can play with my 85-year-old mom and my 30-year-old nephew. I could never do that in tennis,” says Marmelstein, who plays pickleball five times a week. Her skill-level rating is 4.5 on a scale of 6. Pro level starts at 5.5.





Marmelstein's three-generation, pickleball-loving family is part of a trend sweeping the nation. According to the Sports & Fitness Industry Association, pickleball grew to 4.2 million players in 2020—up from 3.5 million in 2019. That's just in the United States. Forty-eight other member countries belong to the International Federation of Pickleball, which aims to take the sport to the Olympics.

Already one of the fastest-growing sports before the pandemic, pickleball exploded in popularity as rec centers, health clubs and public parks closed for much of the year. "You can play pickleball anywhere, really. People play in their cul-de-sacs. That's what we did throughout COVID-19," Marmelstein says.

All you need is a 20-by-44-foot paved surface, sidewalk chalk, a portable net, paddles and the sport's signature plastic ball resembling Swiss cheese. (A starter kit of four paddles, balls and net will set you back about \$100.)

Combining elements from badminton, tennis and ping-pong, pickleball is played on a badminton-sized court (or one-quarter of a tennis court) using a net that is near tennis height.



"It's super easy to learn," says pickleball enthusiast Steve Taylor, 53. "A single lesson is enough to start you playing." Taylor's sport of choice before he got bitten by the pickleball bug had been volleyball—but he's an outlier. Four of five pickleball players come from tennis or other racquet sports, he says.

A professional videographer, Taylor discovered the game while filming content for the Pickleball Channel on YouTube in 2015. Since then, pickleball has taken over his professional and personal life. Now nearly all his clients are pickleball organizations. "The sport is blowing up. Everybody needs photos and video," he says.

When he isn't shooting tournaments, pro tours or feature articles for Pickleball Magazine, Taylor is usually swinging a paddle. He plays six days a week, three to five hours a day, across the South Bay and Orange County. He also teaches private and group lessons on various local courts. "I'm just heavily addicted," he says, laughing.

What makes pickleball so addictive? "The secret sauce—and the reason the intergenerational stuff works—is because pickleball is very easy to learn, very easy to play and it's super social," Taylor says.

The social aspects are baked in. The small court size encourages chit-chat between partners and opponents. A single-match rule in drop-in open play promotes ever-changing player combinations because a new foursome takes the court after each set. A paddle queuing system keeps track of who's up next. If you show up alone, your paddle is randomly paired with another in the queue, sparking new friendships.

“That’s what makes pickleball so great. I love all the people I get to interact with,” Taylor says.



Pickleball Pros

Don’t be fooled by pickleball’s ease of play. As one grows into the sport, strategy and technique become crucial—which is why hard-bitten competitors like Marmelstein and Taylor can never get enough.

“If you play it well, you’re moving all the time,” says Marmelstein. “It’s exhausting. Just watch some pro videos and see how fast and accurate and athletic they are—what amazing hands they have!”

The sport currently has three major tournaments: Margaritaville USA Pickleball Nationals at Indian Wells, California; the US Open in Naples, Florida; and the Tournament of Champions in Brigham City, Utah. Two pro tours—one with 18 stops, another with 12—pay purses up to \$125,000, and top players clear more than \$200,000 a year between winnings, brand sponsorships and clinics. Level Up, one of the sport’s premiere academies, runs three-day training camps in 90 cities.

Tournament age brackets go from preteens to seniors. One of the world’s top pro players is 14-year-old Anna Leigh Waters of Delray Beach, Florida.

Pickleball History

Pickleball was invented in 1965 by Joel Pritchard, a six-term U.S. congressman from Seattle, at his vacation home on Bainbridge Island, Washington. He and two other dads created the sport as a way to entertain their kids who complained of having “nothing to do.”

According to the Pickleball Hall of Fame, the sport was possibly named for the Pritchard family dog, Pickles, who absconded with stray whiffle balls. By another account, the name was coined by Pritchard’s wife, Joan. The mash-up of three racquet/paddle sports reminded her of “pickle boats” in crew, where oarsmen are chosen from the leftovers of other boats.

Where to Play

According to USA Pickleball, there are more than 34,000 pickleball courts in America. Here are some South Bay options:

- Manhattan Heights Park
- Waleria Park Senior Center
- Hermosa Beach
- Wilson Park
- El Segundo Parks and Rec
- Sur La Brea Park

A free introductory class—open to all ages—is held at Waleria Park every Monday and Thursday at 9 am. It’s hosted by the USA Pickleball ambassadors program, a volunteer group devoted to growing the sport. For details, contact Torrance ambassador Debbie Martin at 310-892-3008.

To find more courts, go to [Places2Play.org](https://www.places2play.org) and enter your city in the search window. Local USA Pickleball ambassadors, who keep the database current, can be reached by email through the website.

Categories: [Health and Wellness](#), [Pulse](#)

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: JOHN LA ROCK, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION REPORT – AUGUST 2021

FACILITY BOOKING – Aleksandra Rosell, Acting Program Coordinator

During the month of August, staff issued 84 short-term, 2 hour permits for fields. Long-term field users were issued 465 permits. There were no softball tournaments held at Wilson Park. Due to COVID-19 no park buildings were rented.

Picnic Reservations

- A total of 141 picnics with 5,762 guests in attendance were permitted at Torrance parks during the month of August. The breakdown is as follows:

Park	Picnics	Guests
Columbia Park	35	1,665
El Nido Park	11	320
El Retiro Park	6	187
Hickory Park	7	186
Lago Seco Park	4	126
McMaster Park	2	45
Paradise Park	6	177
Torrance Park	13	763
Victor Park	3	105
Walteria Park	5	179
Wilson Park	49	2,009

There were 42 bouncer permits issued for the month of August.

Facilities Revenue Report

Revenue	August	2021 YTD
Attic	-	-
Facility Reservations	-	1,648.00
Field Lights/Support	3,137.40	268,445.40
Field Prep	280.00	25,271.50
Filming Permits	-	2,000.00
Hockey Rink	7,049.00	20,683.00
Picnic Reservations	-1,095.50	26,909.75
Pool Rental	16,420.00	104,894.50

Special Events	40.00	4,040.00
Sports Center	7,820.00	12,245.00
Torrance Art Museum	-	-
Toyota Sports Complex	56,000.00	222,980.00
Weddings	1,000.00	1,250.00
Monthly Total	\$ 90,650.90	\$ 1,290,083.40

Facility Booking is currently working on re-evaluating unused field spaces in the parks and hopes to create more field space for the community as well as additional revenue for the City of Torrance.

PARK RANGER PROGRAM – Vic Arevalo, Program Coordinator

During the month of August, the Park Ranger program continued its weekday patrols of all City parks.

- Including restroom closures at Columbia and Wilson Parks
- Weekend patrols focused on assisting permit holders and picnic reservations.

Parks

Statistics were kept of common incidents that Rangers observed during the month of August.

	August	YTD
Alcohol Violations	27	102
Amplified Sound	15	58
Bouncer Violations	0	2
Citizen Assist	50	127
Defiant/Disruptive Subjects	8	25
Dogs Off Leash Violations	72	297
Fire Call-Outs	0	4
Graffiti Hotline	33	147
Hazard Report/Removal	16	76
Maintenance/Park Call-Outs	10	16
Marijuana/Smoking/Vaping	18	82
Miscellaneous	1	21
Missing Subjects	0	2
Park Damage	5	34
Parking Violations	21	65
Permit Issues	70	1,581
Police Call-Outs	2	8
Ranger Call-Outs	16	61
Skating/Biking Violations	7	37
Suspicious Subjects	7	27
Transient Contacts	35	183
Transient Welfare Checks	6	67
Trespassing on Closed Fields	0	23
Unpermitted Food/Street Vendor Contacts	2	21

COVID SPECIFIC CONTACT SECTION		
Enforcing Park Amenity Closures	0	33
Protests	0	5
Social Distancing/Mask Advises	0	95
Subjects Violating LA County Health Order	0	1334

- Parks are extremely busy with a high number of citizen assists, graffiti and dogs off leash responses.
- Permit holder at Torrance Park routinely parks his vehicle blocking the fire lane despite repeated attempts to resolve.
- Unhoused individuals engaging in alcohol consumption, sleeping in closed tents, and smoking resulted in a high number of contacts at Columbia and WALTERIA Parks.
- Other issues include ongoing contacts with non-Torrance affiliated tennis instructors giving private lessons at several parks, despite posted rules.
- The Remote Control track at El Nido continues to expand past agreed upon boundaries and an associate of the club has been reported smoking in the park and allowing his dog to be off leash defecating and not picking up after the dog.

Special Events

- Rangers assisted at the Cultural Services' event "Nomad"
- Assisted with Recreation's Movies in the Park event at Greenwood.
- Assisted with two special permits at Miramar Park for a wedding and celebration of life.

REGISTRATION – Debbie Parr, Program Coordinator

Registration processed a total of 1,772 enrollments with a net revenue of \$271,821.02 during the month of August 2021. The breakdown is as follows:

August 2021

	Resident Enrollments	Non-Resident Enrollments	Total Enrollments	Net Revenue
Staff Enrollments	177	64	241	70,744.48
Internet	1,187	254	1,441	140,242.04
Totals	1,364	318	1,682	\$ 210,986.52

Adult Leagues August 2021

	Total Enrollments	Net Revenue
Basketball	46	33,447.70
Softball	44	27,386.80
Totals	90	\$ 60,834.50

HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – Shawn Plunkett, Program Supervisor

During the month of August, the Home Improvement Program completed projects at 13 households, with ongoing projects at 8 additional households.

	August	YTD
Carpentry	7	57
Electrical	3	38
Miscellaneous	12	35
Paint	0	0
Plumbing	5	62
COVID-19	0	0
Total number of services provided	27	192

Respectfully submitted,



 John La Rock
 Community Services Director

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
FROM: TRACY DRAKE, PARK SERVICES MANAGER
SUBJECT: PARK SERVICES DIVISION REPORT – AUGUST 2021

PARKS / FACILITIES

The Projects/mowing Crews:

- Assisted the Landscape and Maintenance Crews with summer maintenance.
- Removed and replaced concrete slabs at the east picnic area at Wilson Park.
- Installed a new park sign at La Romeria Park.
- Repaired a hole in the fence at the east end of Torrance Park and the north east side of Walteria Park.
- Installed a concrete slab and drinking fountain at Miramar Park.
- Installed 50' of new fencing at Del Amo Blvd and Wayne Avenue to assist Public Works.
- Delivered bleachers and assisted with parking lot clean up for a special event at Columbia Park.
- Continued mowing route – now at 11-14 day cycle due to staffing and the speed the grass is growing

The Landscape Team:

- Completed installation of the fruit tree bubbler irrigation at Lago Seco Park.
- Completed mainline irrigation repairs at DePortola, Entradero and Delthorne Parks.
- Assisted Recreation with Movies in the Park event at Greenwood.
- Assisted Recreation with softball tournament at Wilson Park.
- Planted three dedication trees at Seaside Heroes Park.
- Removed diseased pine trees at Delthorne and the Attic and diseased olive trees at Lago Seco Park.
- Renovated the planters at the City Yard and Hickory Park.

Maintenance Crews:

- Added soil and leveled turf on sport playing fields.
- Continued to repair various wooden park benches and picnic areas.
- Continued pest control on gophers and ground squirrels control to prevent uneven turf areas and damage to the Live steamers train tracks.
- Replaced tennis nets and basketball nets at various sport courts.

MADRONA MARSH PRESERVE AND NATURE CENTER

- “Great for a quick lunch walk”. (‘Foursquare City guide’ comment)
- Extended open to the public hours.
 - Nature Center and Preserve now open 12 additional hours each week.

- Reopened Tyke Hike.
 - Nature walk for those 3 months to 6 years old led by docent.
 - Hike is held each first Thursday of the month.
- In process of recruiting more volunteers to fill Nature Center individual task and program lead vacancies.
 - Many have returned to school, several reluctant to volunteer until they feel safe, others plan not to reengage with volunteering.
 - Those we do have are doing a great job for us.
 - We are substituting staff for some activities.
- Demand growing for school tours and civic work group activities at the Marsh.
 - Limited staff working hard to plan, schedule, and incorporate group activity into our portfolio of work tasks.
 - Requestors include: Corporate, Alumni Assoc., YMCA, Religious, Scouts, Rotary, among others.
- Planning project work tasks for Global Ismaili Civic Day on 25 Sept.
 - Rotary and YMCA partnering with Ismaili supporting responsible volunteering.
- .03 inches of rain fell on the Nature Preserve in August.
 - 5.17" for the rain season.
 - Season ends September 31st.
- Prepared to renew water quality testing in September at Madrona Marsh.
 - Plan to include Henrietta Basin and Entradero Park as rain and ponding permit.
 - Ensure water in wetlands and sump meets state and regional requirements.
- Supported "Discover Torrance" and toured writer Melissa Curtin as she documented Madrona Marsh.
 - Her article promoting Torrance places to go and things to see will highlight the City as a destination including the Marsh.
- Working on enhanced program schedule for winter 2022.
- Staff drafted project portfolio for Eagle Scout and Gold Award Scout project implementation beginning in September.

Respectfully Submitted,



Tracy Drake
Park Services Manager

CONCUR:



John La Rock
Community Services Director

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: GARRETT CRAIG, RECREATION SERVICES MANAGER

SUBJECT: RECREATION SERVICES MONTHLY REPORT FOR AUGUST 2021

The following is information regarding Recreation Division programs and facilities for August 2021:

YOUTH SPORTS / AQUATICS / EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION – *Allison Saufua, Acting Sr. Recreation Supervisor; Patti Goldenson, Recreation Supervisor; Kim Hibbard, Aquatics Program Coordinator*

Aquatics:

- Summer programming at the Plunge has safely concluded with fall classes beginning the week of September 5.
- The drop-in lap swim accounted for 2,364 pool visits.
- The drop-in recreation swim accounted for 540 pool visits.
- Long-term pool rental, Swim Torrance, returned to the Plunge on August 30 with 78 pool visits.
- Long-term pool rental LAPS (Los Angeles Peninsula Swimmers) Master's Swim Team accounted for 676 pool visits.

Early Childhood Education (ECE):

- ECE is not in session this summer and will return in September 2021.

Youth Sports:

- The Summer Volleyball season concluded on Saturday August 21, 2021.
- 188 volleyball players participated in the program for 4th - 8th graders.
- The season went great and we had positive response with everyone following the indoor mask mandate
- Flag Football is scheduled to begin in September, and registration is ongoing.

ADULT SPORTS / SEA-AIRE GOLF COURSE – *Garrett Craig, Recreation Services Manager*

Adult Sports:

- The Adult Softball Program concluded the Summer Season with 96 teams participating. Adult Softball Fall registration is currently open, with last registration on September 7, 2021.
- Our Summer Adult Basketball leagues concluded their season with 54 teams participating. Players and positive feedback for our new 6'2" & under league on Monday nights.
- Adult Roller Hockey leagues have returned to the rink Monday-Saturday. On Sundays, the rink also stays busy with private rentals.

- With summer now in full swing, The Toyota Sports Complex has soccer groups out on the fields almost every day of the week.

Sea-Aire Golf Course:

- The *Sea-Aire* Summer golf season started winding down in August with another record number of golf rounds played. Total rounds played in August were 3,795.
- Staff is finishing preparations for the annual *Sea-Aire* Labor Day junior golf challenge that is set for September 6th.
- The Friday morning Seniors golf club had a three player team golf tournament on August 13th.
- The Thursday morning Women's golf club had a running three-week golf score individual golf tournament.
- Patrons are happy with the new better quality green flags that were purchased in August.
- With the shorter late summer daylight hours the new last tee-off time is now earlier set at 5:30 p.m.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB / DAY CAMPS / PARKS GRAB AND GO CRAFT PROGRAM/ ADAPTIVE PROGRAMS / SPECIAL EVENTS – *Suzie Wand, Senior Recreation Supervisor; Nicole Madera, Acting Recreation Supervisor; Charlene Walker, Program Coordinator*

After School Club Program:

- The program began on August 26 at 8 elementary and three middle school sites.
- The program was not able to begin on August 26 at four of our typical school sites. Bert Lynn, Casimir, Hull and Magruder had low enrollment numbers and this, coupled with a severe staffing shortage, caused us to pause the start of the program. It is hoped that enrollment numbers will grow and new staff will be hired on shortly.
- Parents were notified of the delay at the sites noted above and we will continue to monitor enrollment numbers and try to recruit new staff.
- The sites that are up and running have great enrollment numbers. Most are full and have waiting lists.
- The program follows guidelines set forth by the L.A. County Department of Public Health.

Parks Grab & Go Craft Program:

- The program which offered free craft kits at three parks during the week, concluded on August 12.
- Staff advertised the program on social media as well as utilizing a large pop-up tent with a banner to draw attention. Information was also shared with Camp Torrance participants and parents.

Camp Torrance:

- *Camp Torrance* concluded on August 13. All nine weeks were filled to capacity and it was a great success.
- Numerous parent surveys were received with excellent overall satisfaction ratings. Many staff were specifically named and praised for their care and performance at the program.

Carpenter Wagon:

- The *Carpenter Wagon* program concluded on August 4 at Walteria Park. Attendance was at its maximum and patrons enjoyed the wood projects created.

- During the final three weeks of the five-week program, painting of the kits resumed and the participants were very excited to add this feature to their projects.
- Very special thanks to our partner, Home Depot, for providing the woodcraft kits and orange aprons each year!

Adaptive Recreation:

- Volunteer count for August concluded at seven (7) with a total of 31 hours.
- Virtual programming continues via Zoom for *PALS (People Actively Learning and Sharing)* members. An average of 15 - 20 members attend each activity.
- A *Beach Walk* was held on August 23, which was a big hit! PALS members enjoyed a long walk and a beautiful sunset.
- The *Summer Basketball Clinic* concluded on Sunday, August 29. Certificates were presented to all athletes who participated in the program. The program, attended by an average of 27 athletes each week, was a huge success!
- *Bocce Ball* is offered on Friday evenings at Columbia Park with average attendance of 20 participants. Special thanks to the South Bay Bocce Club for their support; members of the Club come out to play bocce with PALS members once a month.

Special Events:

- A *Family Movie in the Park* took place at Greenwood Park on Saturday, August 28. An approximate 175 were on hand to view Disney Pixar's *Onward* under the stars! Feedback received on the surveys was very positive, with the overwhelming majority giving an excellent overall satisfaction rating.

TEENS/CO-REC / YOUTH COUNCIL / SENIOR CITIZENS / COMMISSION ON AGING

VIRTUAL RECREATION – *Deborah Reed, Senior Recreation Supervisor; Veronica Minter, Recreation Supervisor; Vacant Position, Recreation Supervisor*

THE ATTIC Teen Center:

- THE ATTIC continued its summer hours through the month of August 2021, opening Monday-Thursday 12pm-3pm. Members were able to participate in socially distant physical fitness classes every Monday, enjoy a movie and snacks on Tuesdays, join outdoor games and crafts on Wednesdays, and learn various life skills on Thursday. THE ATTIC averaged four (4) participants a day.
- The Zoom Lunch Room program met twice a week every Monday and Thursday from 11:00am-11:45am. Students had time to share, chat, and play games together online. These programs averaged five (5) participants per meeting.
- Staff continued to make wellness calls to participating members.

ATTIC Advisory Committee:

- There was no regular meeting this month. Applications were due on July 26, 2021.

S.P.I.N. (Serving People in Need): (Not currently meeting)

Co-Rec (Co-Recreation):

There were no virtual or in-person programming for July and August. Programming will resume September 24.

Babysitting Preparedness Course: The second Babysitting Preparedness class was offered during the week of July 12, with full participants enrolled. The class met Monday – Thursday

from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Participants learned how to plan for a babysitting job, what to expect from children of all ages, how to select toys/ projects and how to plan fun recreational activities. Participants also learned about the safety issues surrounding babysitting, possible hazards and were trained in CPR. Participants finished the course with a walking field trip to the Civic Center Library, where they learned about appropriate reading content for different age levels. The participants passed the test, completed the program, and are now ready to start babysitting!

Virtual Recreation:

- Torrance virtual recreation and social media continues to grow through the pandemic. July is Parks and Recreation Month and Parks Make Life Better Month and we are using the social media platform to highlight facilities and parks to encourage our residents to visit these locations.
- This Month:
 - Spotlight Hickory Park
 - Celebrate by enjoying a round of golf and Sea-Aire Golf Course
 - Spotlight Columbia Park
 - Celebrate by signing up for a league at Dee Hardison Sports Center
 - Spotlight Miramar Park
 - Celebrate by visiting Rec Swim at The Plunge
 - Spotlight Wilson Park
- This platform continues to allow us to keep residents informed of programs, activity status, and new or updated policies related to COVID-19. This month we promoted the Carpenter Wagon, Torrance Grab and Go Craft, Day Camps, Babysitter Preparedness Course, HIP projects and Rec Swim. Residents were informed of the re-opening of the Bartlett Senior Center and Rec Swim. We were able to answer questions and concern with policies, procedures, programs, and park closures.

Youth Council (TYC):

- The Youth Council interviews were held on July 14th and 15th via Zoom, with 26 potential applicants. The Committee chose eight (8) new members and ten (10) returning members to be on the 2021-2022 Torrance Youth Council.
- The 2021-2022 Youth Council was appointed by the City Council at their August 24th meeting.

RECREATION DIVISION VOLUNTEER INFORMATION FOR JANUARY:

LOCATION/PROGRAM	NUMBER of VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEER HOURS
Adaptive Sports		
Bartlett Senior Center		
Early Childhood		
Focal Point	8	32
AARP Tax Aide		
S.P.I.N.		
Torrance Travelers		
Youth Sports		
TOTAL:		

Commission on Aging (COA):

- The Commission on Aging began meeting via Zoom on January 12th.
- The Commission is working towards their Older American Awards in May. Applications are out to organizations that utilize seniors thru volunteer service.
- The Commission is also scheduling guest speakers to talk about topics that affect seniors.

Focal Point on Aging:

- The Focal Point office re-opened on a temporary schedule, July 19th from 9:00am - 12noon. Only seeing clients' in-person by appointment.
- Some of the volunteers have agreed to pick up messages from home and make referrals from home during the remaining hours of 12:00pm-3:00pm.
- Focal Point staff continue to make birthday calls.
- Focal Point is not accepting walk-ins.

Senior Citizens Programs (Bartlett Center, Tillim, Walteria)

- Senior Citizens Programs (Bartlett Center):
- Bartlett Center reopened on Monday, July 12th and is currently offering pool playing in the morning by reservations only and lunch also by reservations. The reopening went very well and it was wonderful to see old friends reconnecting in the lunchroom!
- Card players are back in smaller groups.
- Bartlett staff continue to conduct ZOOM games including Bingo, Wheel-less of Fortune, and ZOOM Conversations Worth Having. All are going well! The Tillim Senior Center, Walteria Park Senior program, and Friday Recreation (Ken Miller) Seniors program remain closed due to COVID-19.
- Staff made wellness calls to let seniors know Bartlett is now open and to check in on seniors.
- Staff continue to work on fall classes and re-opening of Tillim, Waltera and Ken Miller sites.

Respectfully Submitted,



Garrett Craig
Recreation Services Manager

CONCUR:

John La Rock
Community Services Director