

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

4.a. Upcoming Community Events

Staff shared upcoming community events including:

- Senior Center drive-in movie scheduled for Thursday, October 15, 2020 at the Community Meeting Center parking lot featuring the movie *Beetlejuice*.
- Senior Center drive through event, Trunk-or-Treat on Thursday, October 29, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. at the Community Meeting Center parking lot.
- Buena Clinton Día de los Muertos event featuring the movie *Coco*, and drive through resource fair is scheduled for Thursday, November 5, 2020.
- A modified version of the annual Jack O' Lantern Jamboree will take place on Friday, October 23, 2020 on the football field at Garden Grove Park. This year's event will consist of a movie in the park featuring *Hocus Pocus*.
- Winter in the Grove will also be a drive through event and is scheduled for Saturday, December 5, 2020 at Village Green Park.

4.b. Community Services Updates

4.b.2 Human Services Division

Staff has recently seen a plateau in the senior food programs including the weekly frozen meal distribution and the home delivered meal program. Currently, staff are beginning to focus more on socially distanced recreation programs, virtual programs, case management, and the newly launched Coffee Chat program.

The Family Resource Centers continue to focus on providing food programs to families of the community. They are also starting to see a decline in the immediate need for food, and have scaled back distribution to every other week. Community partners have notified staff that federal funding for some food programs may be ending by the end of October 2020.

Community Development Department received funding for a food program and has collaborated with the Community Services Department; it consists of partnering with local restaurants, to offer hot meals to families in need. This program has dual benefits, it supports local restaurants and provides food for local families in need of the

meals. Funding should be sufficient to carry the family resource centers with hot meals through the end of January 2021.

The family resource centers are also focusing on mental health of the community due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. They are working closely with MSW Interns and Clinical Supervisors to provide virtual classes, workshops, and programs dedicated to mental health and self care. Counseling services and Case Management also continue to be offered virtually, with in-person services being offered if a client does not have access to resources, as long as staff and participant have access to a safe environment.

4.b.1 Recreation Division

Recreation Division is currently offering the Tiny Tots/Kare Bears preschool program virtually, which consists of prerecorded lessons for participants through a private Facebook page, parents also pick up activity packets once a month. Staff are closely monitoring GGUSD return-to-school possible dates and guidelines, to help prepare for transition to in-person instruction when it is safe.

This summer, the department was able to offer a limited but successful Aquatics program. Two 2-week sessions were offered at Woodbury Pool and four 2-week sessions at Gary Hall Pool all while adhering to COVID-19 safety measures.

The department also hosted three drive-in movie events this summer, one at the Hyatt Hotel parking lot, another at Orangewood Academy and one at Pacifica High School, with 75 to 90 cars in attendance at each event.

Staff are closely monitoring State and County guidelines for the reopening of indoor facilities, contact sports, and park playgrounds.

Staff reported that the Parks and Recreation Guide will transition from a printed and mailed guide to an online version allowing easier access for the community as well as becoming more cost effective. This year, postcards will be mailed to notify residents when the most recent guide is available online. The Parks and Recreation Guide is produced three times a year; in the summer, fall, and combined winter/spring seasons. It contains city news, community resources, upcoming special events, information for rental facilities, and recreation programs and classes.

4.b.3 Facilities Division

Staff continue to monitor State guidelines regarding sectors related to park facilities; the County is currently in the red tier, just below purple, the most restrictive tier. This means that rental facilities, shelters, and

some park amenities are closed. In September 2020, the State revised the park field guidelines; currently allowing only youth sports. Recently, the department also developed a no-fee permit for churches to operate outdoor services at Garden Grove Park, Village Green Park, and West Grove Park. Parks remain open for passive recreation such as walking, jogging, or exercising.

Staff reported that the City partnered with the Registrar of Voters to open up three City facilities to serve as Vote Centers. October 30 to November 3, 2020, the Courtyard Center, the Sports and Recreation Center, and West Haven Park building will be available to voters. Hours vary and can be found on ocvote.com.

4.c. Public Works Department Update

The department is working on posting signage outlining State guidelines regarding usage of playground equipment. The department has a comprehensive cleaning program that includes heavy fogging and deep cleaning of the equipment once a week.

The West Haven Park turf renovation project is underway. About eight inches of turf will be scraped off and replaced with playable surface. Currently the design phase is almost 100 percent complete and the City plans to go out to bid next week. Staff anticipate to break ground at the end of November or early December 2020.

The light pole replacement project at Magnolia Park has been completed. The next project at Magnolia Park will be a water project at the well site.

Staff updated the Commission on the bike trail project, sharing that irrigation is being installed throughout the trail and sections will be closed off in phases until completion; anticipated to begin on October 5 through December 1, 2020. Once that project is complete, about 300 trees will be planted along the path.

4.d. Reopening of Parks and Facilities

Staff informed the Commission of the reopening plan of parks and facilities in Garden Grove. On September 30, 2020, staff received guidance from the State to reopen playgrounds and fitness equipment, and are now preparing signage to post at parks containing these guidelines. Other amenities that can also reopen are tennis and racquetball courts, athletic fields, and leased rinks at various parks. As the county moves to the next tier, staff will look into the possibility of opening some of the community centers with limited capacity.

4.e. Proposition 68 Grant Application for Woodbury Park

On August 15, 2019 staff submitted a grant application for the renovation and extension of Woodbury Park. In February 2020, the City was notified that they were not selected for the grant. The City's application was one of 478 applications. All the applications combined requested a total of \$2.3 billion in grants. During this round of funding there were \$254 million available for grants. Of those 478 applications received, only 62 were awarded; the average grant request was \$4.8 million and the actual average award amount was \$4.1 million. The new grant application opened up this summer, this will be the last round of competitive grants that will be awarded in 2021 for this program. This round will have \$395.3 million available for competitive applications. The application deadline is December 14, 2020. Staff will once again apply for the grant dedicated to the Woodbury Park project. Currently staff are meeting with an architect to identify modifications in order to be more competitive for this round. A community meeting will be held in the next few weeks, staff will keep Commissioners informed once details are finalized.

Commissioner Stevens suggested that staff document when notices are sent to residents regarding the community meeting, many residents complained that little notice was given regarding previous meetings held. Staff stated that marketing efforts will include a boost on Facebook, the Police Department will once again do outreach with different neighborhood watch groups, as well as contacting past participants in the neighborhood.

4.f. Capital Projects

4.f.1. Atlantis Play Center Fence

Staff reported that the Atlantis Play Center Fence project has experienced several delays due to the pandemic, but over the last couple of weeks have been able to get the project back on track. About 90 percent of the fence posts are in place and panels are being installed to the posts. Staff anticipate completion of this project by November 7, 2020.

4.f.2. Garden Grove Park

Staff informed the Commission that modifications to the previously discussed scope of work have been made. On September 22, 2020, City Council approved the request from staff to reject all 14 bids submitted for the project due to modifications to the scope of work. The playground equipment was removed from the project because the lowest bid designs did not meet staff standards and the ones that did, were above budget. Following City Council approval, staff prepared a revised scope of work that did not include the playground equipment, surface, or shade units. The revised project proposal was released on

September 30, 2020 and bids are due back on October 21, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. Once this project is completed in 2021, staff will move forward with the purchase and installation of playground equipment that meets standards and budget.

4.f.3. Haster Basin Recreational Park

Recently, City staff met with Orange County Deputy Director and her staff at the Haster Basin Recreational Park to discuss future renovation plans. Although this park is located in Garden Grove, the County manages it. Improvements include: landscape work around the walking trail; removal of overgrown bushes; installation of LED lighting along the walking path; and the addition of a basketball court. The County hopes to make the park a safer environment and to enhance recreational features.

5. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Ramirez asked if the City has received feedback on the Right-of-Way walk/bike trail. Staff commented that there have been some positive comments and the trail is being well utilized. A grand opening and more marketing will be conducted once the project is finalized, tentatively in early 2021.

Commissioner Solis thanked staff for all their work during these challenging times.

Vice Chair Salicos thanked staff for their innovations in putting socially distanced events together and resources provided for the senior community.

Chair Perez asked if all capital projects the City is working on are posted on the website. Staff replied that certain Public Works capital improvements are on the website as they are tied to the City budget. Occasionally, projects are highlighted as part of press releases on the main webpage. Staff will work with the Office of Community Relations to see about highlighting more projects in the works. Chair Perez also thanked staff for going above and beyond in doing great things for the residents of Garden Grove.

6. MATTERS FROM STAFF: None.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:15 p.m., the meeting was declared adjourned to Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove.

SUGEIRY REYNOSO
Commission Secretary