



Summer Aquatics is returning to pre-pandemic numbers in terms of staff, thus amount of classes offered has increased. The program is being offered at Gary Hall Pool in Eastgate Park, and Woodbury Pool in Woodbury Park; Magnolia Park remains closed due to the capital improvement project that's taking place there. Each session is selling out within a day of opening registration.

Summer Youth Basketball is also at pre-pandemic numbers. There are 7 teams per age division. The season ends with league championships on July 29.

The Atlantis Splash Pad unfortunately remains closed down due to a backordered major replacement component which has resulted in a one-month delay for delivery and installation. The part is expected to be delivered this week with labor beginning the week of July 17. If this schedule remains, the hope is to open the splash pad at the end of July.

On Friday, July 7 the first movie in the park for the summer featured *Lightyear* at Eastgate Park, with an estimated attendance of about 250 people. The next movie in the park is scheduled for August 11 at Garden Grove Park. Keeping with the aviation theme, staff will be showing *Top Gun: Maverick*.

A reception for Garden Grove Gems, formerly known as Garden Grove Pride program, was held on June 20. Being the second year since bringing back the program, it had a higher participation. This program is now a virtual competition. Residents self nominate their homes, the photos are published online, and residents have the opportunity to vote for their favorite homes in each district. Winners and runner ups are invited to a reception and are recognized by the City Council.

#### 4.a.2. Human Services Division Update

Staff shared information regarding the Back to School Drive which provides free back to school supplies to the less fortunate. Applications are currently being accepted.

The division partnered with a nonprofit organization called Families Together of Orange County who provide low cost to free medical services. They offer mobile unit services at both Magnolia Park and Buena Clinton resource centers. Uninsured families can sign up to receive free exams and a variety of other services. The division also partners with Healthy Smiles who have merged with AltaMed to provide mobile dental services.

Buena Clinton Youth and Family Center began their summer day camp at the beginning of June and will be ending in two weeks. This program is offered to residents in the area. Summer program includes elementary school youth program, a teen camp for those in middle school, and a Volunteering program for high school teens, which provides volunteer opportunities to gain recreation services experience. The Center offers free snack and lunch for children in the community.

In addition, the Center has been hosting "Family Nights" once a month this summer. In June they hosted a Karaoke night for the first time. This month they will offer a Lucha Libre event, which includes wrestling matches, resource booths, and

Bracken's Kitchen will provide free meals to families in attendance. In August they will have a movie night featuring *The Super Mario Bros. Movie*.

Magnolia Park Family Resource Center is starting their first week of summer day camp offered to only internal clients who receive services at the center; the program serves about 20 participants. The Center also offers a Diaper Program through Community Action Partnership, they provide 75 free diapers a month to families who register in January or July. The past fiscal year, they served 100 families with 120 children but distributed over 65,000 diapers. Another successful program at Magnolia is the Father's Group which includes 10-12 fathers that meet on a monthly basis to learn how to be engaged and involved in parenting.

The H. Louis Lake Senior Center offers technology classes including iPad classes with the help of Office on Aging who donated 20 iPads, and technology classes offered through Santa Ana College, which provide laptops to help seniors learn how to utilize computers. There are a couple excursions coming up for seniors, including Duffy Boat rides in Newport Beach, as well as an Angels baseball game in August. They will conclude summer programming with a Yacht themed event on August 17.

Staff shared that the City just extended their contract with California Yellow Cab, who provide free or low cost transportation services for seniors through funding provided by OCTA.

#### 4.a.3. Facilities Division Update

Staff explained that the Facilities Division doesn't provide programming, but do offer spaces and opportunities for others to host their programming or special events at picnic shelters, community centers, or sports fields.

Staff mentioned that athletic fields are currently being reseeded and closed off to allow them to regrow and be ready for fall sports.

The Community Meeting Center and Courtyard Center recently hosted the Strawberry Festival and activities associated with the event. These two facilities are completely booked from now until the end of the year. They are not at pre-pandemic numbers as far as bookings, but slowly making their way there.

Park Patrol staff are busy overseeing park picnic shelter and building rentals, making sure everyone is abiding to park rules.

Garden Grove Community Foundation (GGCF) host summer concerts in the park. The City offers support to the foundation. Commissioners received fans with the summer concert lineup, today's concert presents "Tijuana Dogs" which will probably draw the largest crowd of the concert series. Staff thanked commissioners who volunteered to judge the vocal competition, The Voice which is programmed prior to the start of each concert. GGCF will also host the annual Golf Tournament on October 11. It is a joint effort between GGCF and the Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce. The tournament was renamed to The Ric Lerma Golf Classic after Ric Lerma who passed away earlier this year; he was a member of both GGCF and the Chamber of Commerce and was very instrumental with developing the golf tournament to what it is today. Commissioners are invited to participate in the golf tournament.

4.b. Updated Community Services Fee Schedule

Department staff were tasked to review the current fee schedule and revamp it since it had been about 15 years since a major update to it. The cost of doing business has significantly increased for the city throughout the last 15 years. In order for the City to cover some of its costs, it was necessary to review and update the fee schedule. Staff did some research by gathering data from other Orange County cities comparable to Garden Grove. Staff also restructured the classifications of all users to make them uniform throughout the department. Some of the major increases to fees affect private rentals at Atlantis Play Center, some of the facility building rentals, and sports field rentals. The proposed fee schedule went to the City Council for approval and was approved during the first hearing on June 13, a second hearing will take place at the July 25 City Council meeting. If adopted, new fees will be implemented beginning September 1, 2023. Staff have met with some of the users to prepare them for the increases and possibly work out a payment schedule if the initial impact is too large.

Commissioner Maher inquired if there are any plans to incorporate any turf fields at any of the parks. Staff replied that the cost of maintenance, heat generated, and the risk of injury is unfavorable at this time. Although the City would save water, the City has decided not to go in that direction because of the security component and the infrastructure that it would take to develop these types of fields. In the future, if the City were to receive a grant and the technology gets better, it can be a consideration.

Commissioner Strickland inquired where the City fell when comparing fees with other cities. Staff replied that Garden Grove was more on the lower end. Staff wanted to ensure that costs of staffing and cost of operations and maintenance for Public Works were covered so that they have the resources to fix those fields and facilities when needed.

4.c. Capital Projects

4.c.1. Civic Center Bridge and Landscape Renovation Project Update

Bridges by the Senior Center and Community Center have been removed due to their poor condition. The contract for this project was awarded to RG General Engineering who began working on the project in May. The side adjacent to the Senior Center was kept simple with only a walkway without a bridge. On the Community Meeting Center side, in addition to the bridge, staff wanted make it aesthetically appealing as well as easy to maintain. The project will include a DG walkway as well as installation of cobblestone to give it a feel and look of a creek minus the water. There are many special events taking place at the venue, so staff wanted there to be some nice option to take pictures outside of the facility. Staff shared renderings of the project. These improvements will cost about \$357,000.

4.c.2. Woodbury Park Expansion and Revitalization Project Update

Staff provided background information regarding the \$6 million Proposition 68 Grant the City received at the end of 2021 to revitalize Woodbury Park. This park was selected based on meeting the criteria of residential demographics surrounding the park. Currently, the project is in its design phase, which is close to 30% submittal of design. The City hired an architect firm last year, David Volz Design. Staff hope to have 50% submittal before the end of summer, and have a community meeting

at the park; commissioners will be invited to engage with residents. It will be a great improvement for residents and the school district, who have been involved with this project and have been very supportive. Staff hope to have plans ready by the end of the year. Commissioners will be updated and will be part of some of the community meetings. The goal is to go into construction by spring of 2024, with completion in 2025.

#### 4.c.3. Magnolia Park Project Update

Staff shared plans for project. Staff received approval from City Council at the June meeting to hire the contractor. Project improvements will include new playground equipment; the outdoor fitness equipment will be relocated closer to the playground area, this will allow parents to do exercise while supervising their children playing on the playground; the picnic shelter will be replaced; there will be new perimeter fencing surrounding the pool; and some ADA improvements to the parking lot. Staff will also ensure that everything is ADA compliant all throughout the improvements. The goal is to have preconstruction at the end of July and begin construction in the fall, with completion in the winter.

Commissioner Strickland inquired if Magnolia Park will also have parking issues. Staff replied that parking will always be a challenge because of the family resource center and park users. Adding additional parking spaces is not part of the project.

#### 4.c.4. Community Project Funding Grant

Staff have received an executed agreement through HUD for the CPF grant of \$1 million that was awarded by Lou Correa's office to make improvements to three park sites, Jardin de Los Niños, Haster Basin Park, and West Haven Park. Jardin de los Niños will have its fitness equipment replaced; restrooms and playground equipment will be replaced at Haster Basin Park; and West Haven Park will have its restrooms replaced. Staff will be working with the HUD consultant and Public Works to look at different playground and restroom companies for those improvements. Staff hope to have some designs and construction bid documents by the end of the year and complete those improvements by the end of 2024.

Commissioner Strickland departed the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

#### 4.d. Public Works Update

Staff expressed his appreciation for John and Janet for all the services provided to the community.

There are some lighting upgrades at Chapman Sports Complex, with lighting going to LED. The lead time for supplies has been problematic, as a result the City has only been able to acquire a few lights.

The water department has done some upgrades at the water well site at Magnolia Park. Irrigation is off and on due to staff checking for leaks.

With regards to the West Haven Park improvements, restrooms will be relocated to be more central. The thought is to regrade the area behind the recreation building, make a path, and run some plumbing.

5. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Perez expressed her content with the success of the Strawberry Festival. She thanked John, Janet, Elaine and the whole team for always being so easy to get a hold of and being so responsive.

6. MATTERS FROM STAFF:

Staff will be in touch regarding any community meeting for the Woodbury Park project that may take place in the near future.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:06 p.m., the meeting was declared adjourned to Thursday, October 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove.

SUGEIRY REYNOSO  
Commission Secretary