

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Parks Department



DATE: January 25, 2016
COMMISSION MEETING DATE: February 4, 2016

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Scott Lombardi, Parks Superintendent
SUBJECT: Superintendent's Report

RECOMMENDATION

Review and accept report.

BACKGROUND

This report covers Park activities since the Commission's December 3, 2015 meeting.

DISCUSSION

PARK DISTRICT I

Coyote Point Recreation Area

Volunteer projects continue at the Park including Eagle Scouts' work around the Captain's House and Salesforce's work to remove trip hazards in the Harbor View picnic area.

Two electronic pay stations are now in operation at the entry. Tyco Security Systems have security cameras monitoring the gatehouse and pay stations as well as the concession building.

Crystal Springs Trail

The holiday season and people's New Year resolution making brought large, but anticipated crowds to Sawyer Camp Trail. Additional ranger patrols were scheduled to handle the dog contacts and bicycle vs pedestrian complaints that increase due to the greater number of visitors. Staff has seen a dramatic surge in the use of recreational technology on Sawyer Camp Trail including electric skateboards and drones that have the potential to create visitor use conflicts.

Wet weather conditions have delayed the paving work on the San Andreas Trail – the Trail is still anticipated to reopen in mid-February.

PARK DISTRICT II

Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve

In response to continuing vehicle break-ins in the parking lot, we have placed additional warning signs along the Edgewood Trail and on a movable barricade in the main parking area. In addition, staff has been periodically patrolling the parking lots in an effort to deter break-ins.

Friends of Edgewood volunteers and staff are clearing brush and widening sections of the Franciscan and Ridge Trails. They will also install or improve existing trail treads and drainage features.

As part of the Bluebird Project, volunteers have repaired and relocated several birdhouses with the intent of increasing the number of nesting bluebirds. They will also install additional birdhouses this year.

An Eagle Scout is building a flowerbed near the Education Center.

Staff continues working with PG&E staff to get the areas affected by their line testing work rehabilitated.

Flood Park

Staff is replacing table boards at picnic sites, trimming trees, grinding stumps and clearing drainages.

Alternative Work Program crews are weeding and raking leaves in reservation areas on the weekends.

Huddart Park

Maintenance and park staff replaced the deck and entryway to the Miwok Shelter. The Toyon III ADA accessible restroom and camping area has been completed including the road paving, parking areas, and the addition of an 18-foot by 18-foot compacted rock tent pad.

CDC crews continue to work on fuel reduction in the park along the Werder Loop and Campground Trail.

Volunteers recently spread chips around picnic tables in the Upper and Lower Oak picnic areas and have started pulling out French and Scotch broom near the Redwood reservation area.

Several running events with 300 to 500 participants at each event were held at the Park successfully.

Wunderlich Park

A contractor removed seven hazardous trees along Bear Gulch Road in advance of the storms.

Park staff completed a retaining wall along the upper Alambique Trail. Rocking of the surrounding trails will occur once the roads have dried enough for vehicles.

Trees were pruned or removed to allow for the installation of two electrical lines to serve the new restroom and office building near the arena.

A contractor has begun the design of the Carriage House Project that will bring the historical structure up to current ADA and fire code standards.

Friendship Park

Staff continues to help weed, clean the park and haul the green waste composting the volunteers collect.

PARK DISTRICT III-SOUTH COAST

Volunteer-assisted projects continue in Pescadero Creek Park and the Brook Creek Trail to repair and build drainages, and brush overgrown trail sections.

Staff conducted emergency repairs on Old Haul Road to the Humboldt Redwood crossing at Dark Gulch to address destabilization and surface erosion.

Water meters have been installed at the Sam McDonald Park Youth Camp restrooms.

Staff cleared numerous large trees that fell in Pescadero Creek Park during the heavy rains in early January. Salvageable pieces of redwood and Douglas fir were saved for future Department milling projects.

WiFi was installed at the Memorial Park gatehouse in January as part of technical upgrades to streamline the camping reservation process. With this wireless technology, staff will use an iPad tablet to check in arriving campers, which we expect will increase efficiency. Staff is also working on wireless upgrades for the headquarters building, water treatment plant, and the corporation yard.

DISTRICT IV

San Pedro Valley/Devils Slide/Sanchez Adobe

Staff is conducting routine landscape work and after storm cleanup and drainage maintenance at San Pedro Valley. The Friends of San Pedro Valley held their holiday party at the Visitor Center.

Staff made repairs to the main water line and the water company relocated the water meter at Sanchez Adobe.

A water pressure issue at the ranger residence was resolved; the residence project is near completion.

Fitzgerald/Mirada/Quarry/Moss Beach Playground

High surf and rough weather conditions caused damage to the end of the ramp at the Reserve; repairs seemed to be holding. In addition, in response to severe erosion occurring along the coastal bluff areas, staff installed warning signs advising visitors of unstable cliffs.

PARK DISTRICT V

Maintenance

Staff assisted with the practical testing portion of the Park Equipment Mechanic / Operator recruitment and with Purchasing staff reviewed the proposals for front loading garbage trucks, funded through the San Mateo County Saves program.

Staff installed decking at the Miwok Shelter in Huddart Park, LED lighting tubes in the Coyote Point office and shop work areas, and a concrete pad for a shed at the Memorial Park water treatment plant. Staff also assisted Marina personnel with hazardous materials-type response for a 55-gallon drum that had washed ashore.

Staff mowed as weather permitted; removed green waste from various Park Districts; set up a utility trailer (tool holders, bins, containers, etc.) for the Stewardship Corps; removed a hazardous tree in the parking area near CuriOdyssey; received two new 1590XP Brush Bandit chippers; serviced equipment for readiness in anticipation of El Nino weather; and fabricated, constructed and installed an information kiosk at the Lomar Mar property.

At the Sign Shop, staff completed sign requests for CuriOdyssey, Human Resources Department, Public Works - Grant Yard, and for various park districts.

PARK DISTRICT VI

This park district is the Marina, and the Harbor Master makes a report separately on the agenda.

DISTRICT VII – Junipero Serra Park and San Bruno Mountain

Junipero Serra County Park remains closed to vehicular traffic due to the San Francisco Water Department's emergency replacement of San Andreas Pipeline No 2. Work is expected to last into March. In December, staff worked with CDC crews at the park to reduce fire fuel and remove non-native species. Throughout December and January, AB109 crew removed six dead or hazardous trees from along roadways and trails at the Park.

San Bruno Mountain was the location for the annual San Bruno Mountain Hill Climb Bike Race on January 1 and a water/rest stop area part of the route for the AIDS/Lifecycle Resolution Ride on January 8. On the Martin Luther King holiday, 75 SCA volunteers with park staff removed 25 cubic yards of non-native plants and planted 50 native plants.