

# City of Pomona

505 S. Garey Ave  
Pomona, CA 91766

## Regular Meeting Minutes

### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION



*Chair Julian Ibañez Mandujano  
Vice Chair Alexandra Oliva  
Commissioner Norma Quinones  
Commissioner Jacqueline Elizalde  
Commissioner Anthony Guzman  
Commissioner Sonia Ballardo  
Commissioner Irene Aguirre*

#### **VISION STATEMENT**

*Pomona will be recognized as a vibrant, safe, beautiful  
community that is a fun and exciting destination and the home of  
arts and artists, students and scholars, business and industry.*

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Tuesday, June 17, 2025

6:00 PM

Pomona Council Chambers

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#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Ibañez-Mandujano called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

#### **II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Ibañez-Mandujano led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **III. ROLL CALL**

##### **Present:**

Chair Julian Ibañez-Mandujano  
Vice Chair Alexandra Oliva  
Commissioner Irene Aguirre  
Commissioner Anthony Guzman  
Commissioner Sonia Ballardo

##### **Absent:**

Commissioner Norma Quinones  
Commissioner Jacqueline Elizalde

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

Meg McWade, Public Works Director  
Danny Whaley, Parks and Facilities Manager  
Lindsay McElwain, Senior Management Analyst  
Mike Osoff, Community Services Manager  
Adrian Valdez, Recreation Supervisor

#### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

#### **V. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION**

Commissioner Aguirre said she was invited to a community potluck at Tony Cerda Park where they discussed the restrooms and issues of graffiti and their efforts to maintain the park. She said she will be doing a garden cleanup on Sunday with her daughter. She asked for an update on the restroom project at Tony Cerda Park. She said that someone told her that a soccer coach has a restroom key and opens the restrooms for his players only.

Vice Chair Oliva stated she attended the reopening of Washington Park. She stated that all the basketball hoops and nets are back up and is excited to let community members know. She asked if the hospitals could provide training for people that visit the park so that they can know how to help the unhoused in the case of an emergency.

Commissioner Guzman shared out that the ultimate frisbee adult league has been happening the past three Saturdays at Palomares Park. He spoke to staff about offering a youth camp for ultimate frisbee as well.

Commissioner Ballardo said there will be an area commander meeting on June 25, 2025 at Palomares Park with Councilmember Canales. On Thursday through Monday, the Ted Greene Little League will be hosting a little league junior all-star tournament at Jaycee Park. There will be a baseball camp on July 11-13 for youth ages 6-12 for the upcoming fall season and registration information can be found on the Ted Green Little League website. She had the opportunity to talk to community members about the PomonaGo app to report issues at the park. She stated that when park visitors report issues to staff at parks, they respond that it is not their department. She asked staff for an update on the Ted Greene Park restroom project. She shared that said she witnessed a car accident at Ted Greene Park after someone left the opening ceremonies and stated she will speak to the Councilmember about safety precautions regarding the parking lot.

**Chair Ibanez-Mandujano made a motion to revisit the park restroom project, second made by Commissioner Aguirre, carried 5-0.**

Chair Ibanez-Mandujano thanked Mr. Whaley for the condition of the grills at Powers Park because they are looking good. He said that MLK Park is also looking good, including the playground and rubberized surfacing. He asked for a restroom project update for MLK Park too. He shared that the Civic Center playground project is going well.

**Chair Ibanez-Mandujano made a motion asking that City Council consider making a public statement on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Commission that parks are a safe space for residents during the summer, second made by Vice Chair Oliva, carried 5-0.**

#### **VI. CONSENT CALENDAR**

It was recommended that the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the meeting minutes

of May 15, 2025.

**MOTION BY CHAIR IBANEZ-MANDUJANO, SECOND BY VICE CHAIR OLIVA, CARRIED 5-0.**

**VII. DISCUSSION CALENDAR**

1. Free Community Library Project Discussion: Consider a Proposal by Boy Scouts of America to Steward Two Free Community Libraries

Jared Jordan, a boy scout spoke of his troop project to restore little libraries at Willie White Park and Centennial Park to promote literacy and make books accessible. He provided a project scope, timeline, and a list of materials needed to restore the two libraries. He will be utilizing GoFundMe and social media to reach community members for assistance.

Commissioner discussion included their general support of this project, suggestions for contact and communication, and questions about maintenance.

Presentation only. No vote was taken.

2. Initiation of the Park Naming Process for the Phillips Ranch Greenbelt, Civic Center Plaza Park, and the Meadowview Demonstration Garden

Public Works Senior Management Analyst Lindsay McElwain provided an overview of the park naming policy, process, and criteria. Ms. McElwain stated this process is for the Phillips Ranch Greenbelt, Civic Center Plaza Park, and a demonstration garden in Phillips Ranch. Ms. McElwain described the steps according to the policy, which include a nomination period and where forms may be submitted to. There will be community meetings held on July 9 at 4pm at Civic Center Plaza and on July 16 at 5pm and 6pm in the Phillips Ranch area for the greenbelt and garden. The nomination period will close in August and park name suggestions meeting criteria will be brought before the Parks & Recreation Commission in September for vote. Recommendations from the Commission will go to City Council for final consideration and official park naming.

Commission discussion included clarification of the naming criteria.

Public Comment was a written comment submitted by Mayor Sandoval who proposed to name the Civic Center Plaza playground, Mundo de Ninos de Pomona or Children's World Pomona to reflect a space that celebrates children, families, and community in Pomona while honoring Pomona's cultural richness and diversity.

Commissioner Aguirre stated she likes the name proposed by the Mayor because it is a playground that is inclusive and is for all children.

Presentation only. No vote taken.

3. A Discussion of How Measure Y Will Affect Community Services

Community Services Manager Mike Osoff provided an overview of Measure Y, the Pomona

Kids First Initiative approved by Pomona voters in November 2024. Measure Y will allocate an increasing amount from the general fund into a separate fund that will be managed by a 15-member board. An initial projection revealed that the City's reserves of approximately \$16M would be depleted by 2030 if no action is taken. Mr. Osoff stated that going into next fiscal year, all City departments were tasked to reduce expenses and minimize impact to City services. In Community Services, vacancies will not be filled. A few years ago, the City Council approved the creation of a youth commitment budget which was \$1.5M last fiscal year and will be \$1M next fiscal year. Next fiscal year, there will be no funding for summer concerts, youth residential camps and the ice-skating rink for Holiday at the Plaza. The Youth Employment Program will no longer sustain up to 20 youth employees and will fund 13 youth employees next fiscal year. The recreation guide may be impacted and may not be mailed out to Pomona households. Staff will be leaning more into grants and launch a sponsorship program to help offset the gap.

Vice Chair Oliva asked which metrics determined or guided the decisions to scale back on particular programs and activities, including personnel. Vice Chair Oliva asked if there were plans shared by City Council whether there was any intention of dipping into the reserves.

Chair Ibanez-Mandujano asked who will be on the Measure Y advisory committee. Staff responded that City Council will appoint positions for the board, and there will be a director position that the City Manager will select.

Staff responded that without staffing, programming and activities cannot be administered. Staff evaluated items that were considered a luxury and looks to continue to provide a baseline of services. Staff stated there will be a combination of cuts and dipping into reserves.

Commissioner Guzman asked if there are plans to generate tax revenue. Staff responded that updating the fee schedule is one way to generate revenue but is not aware of other plans by the City at this time.

Presentation only. No vote taken.

### **VIII. STAFF COMMUNICATION**

- Summer activities include sports camps, specialty camps, and a field trip week for youth ages 4-17. For teens, there is a life-skills camp and a cooking camp.
- There was a spring concert for Pomona Youth Orchestra on June 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Staff met with Trust Public Land to assess inactive city properties to potentially create more recreational spaces.
- Staff have participated in trainings focused on resiliency and stress through Tri-City Mental Health Services.
- An item that went to City Council was the Ganesha Park Bandshell to hire a structural engineer to assess it for safety and determine what investments will be needed for repairs.
- The restroom replacement project is currently in the submittal phase.
- Vandalism is the biggest challenge that Public Works faces and encouraged to report issues and use the PomonaGo App.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Ibanez-Mandujano adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m. to the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 17, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Washington Park Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

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Monica Belloso  
Management Analyst

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Julian Ibanez-Mandujano  
Chair of the Parks & Recreation Commission