

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.*

Thursday, January 15, 2026

6:00 PM

Palomares Park Community Center

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ibanez-Mandujano called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Ibanez-Mandujano led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Present:

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

Absent:

Commissioner Sonia Ballardo

STAFF PRESENT

Mike Osoff, Community Services Manager
Shandy Dittman, Public Works Fiscal and Project Manager
Monica Belloso, Management Analyst

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

V. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

Commissioner Aguirre shared that the Pomona Lawn Bowling Club extended her an invitation to a tournament that included 20 teams from various cities, like Riverside, Long Beach, and Redlands. She said she attended a District 1 area commander meeting and it was a good turnout; pizza was provided and the HEART team presented information about graffiti and gang issues. She said she attended the MLK Park ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new restroom and skatepark project. She did a walkthrough of Tony Cerda Park and noticed that the garden is overgrown; she said she will organize a cleanup in the next two weeks.

Commissioner Quinones said she attended the Pomona Parade. There was a community safety meeting last night at Ganesha Park.

Commissioner Guzman stated Ultimate Frisbee started up again at Palomares Park with 50 signups, and many from surrounding cities, even as far as Redlands. He looks forward to seeing the league grow, building community, and having the space activated. He said he attended the pickup soccer game at Palomares Park on the 29th. There were only 4 people, but they still played and had a good time.

Chair Ibanez-Mandujano informed that he also attended the MLK Park re-opening for the restrooms and skatepark. It was beautiful and encouraging to see these projects go up and know that other parks will be getting new restrooms too. He mentioned the back wall at MLK Park is in need of murals and asked if the City can help find a way to get supplies for an art project, and he can help find an artist. He agrees with Commissioner Aguirre that the garden at Tony Cerda has been neglected and said he can help find resources for the garden. The Civic Center playground project is progressing. He asked on behalf of Commissioner Ballardo, a status update on the request of information regarding the cannabis tax and its community benefits.

Vice Chair Oliva said she finally took the Metro A Line and it was great, and 909 Market may be doing a popup at the Pomona North stop, but she will find out more information. She thanked staff and her fellow Commissioners for meeting just prior to the commission meeting to discuss Memorial Park, as part of the ad-hoc committee. She said Pomona ACTS came out last year to a Commission meeting and shared information about their work. Pomona ACTS will be holding a community meeting on February 26, 2026 at Palomares Park from 5:30pm – 7pm and she encouraged everyone to attend to learn more about safety and accessibility in the City.

Commissioner Elizalde said she had a few community members talk to her about Phil and Nell Soto Park and the graffiti issues there and asked staff if they had updates.

Chair Ibanez-Mandujano stated that a fruit vendor at Tony Cerda Park was taken by ICE last Thursday.

VI. CONSET CALENDAR

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

of November 20, 2025 and December 4, 2025.

MOTION BY CHAIR IBANEZ-MANDUJANO, SECOND BY VICE CHAIR OLIVA, CARRIED 6-0.

VII. DISCUSSION CALENDAR

1. Parks and Facilities CIP Overview

Public Works Fiscal and Project Manager Shandy Dittman provided a list, description, status, and funding of parks and facilities projects under the purview of the Parks and Recreation Commission as of December 21, 2025. The Commission was asked to receive and file the overview of 34 parks and facilities projects. Status changes since the last update include:

1. Park Restroom Construction and Replacement - Washington Park is near completion and John F. Kennedy Jr. Park is to be set on December 23, 2025. A Joint Use Agreement with Pomona Unified School District is pending and delaying the installation of the restrooms at Tony Cerda Park.
2. MLK Jr., Park Skate Park Expansion and Lighting - The Grand Opening is tentatively scheduled for January 14, 2026.
3. Ted Greene Park Restroom Renovation - Construction is 70% complete and the roof, plumbing, and doors have been completed. It is estimated that the bathroom fixtures will take an additional three weeks to be delivered as of December 22, 2025.
4. Washington Park Soccer Fields Rehabilitation and Palomares Park Soccer Field Renovation – Projects are out to bid.

VII. STAFF COMMUNICATION

- Holiday at the Plaza was a success with thousands of people coming through.
- Staff are working on prioritizing park needs and will share with Commissioners soon.
- There was a request for a cannabis presentation. Staff made the request to the department. They are currently developing a program and will present information later.
- There was an attempt made to run thousands of credit cards on the recreation software. Fortunately, staff were notified immediately, and the IT department was able to place safety measures to help reduce these types of incidents in the future.
- Staff is currently working on a Special Events Policy and will soon begin working on a Street Closure Policy and Film Policy.

Commissioner Guzman asked about an update regarding the pickleball lights. Staff responded that a tournament is being planned for late February to fundraise for lighting at the courts.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ibanez-Mandujano adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m. to the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at Ralph Welch Park, 1000 Buena Vista Street, Pomona, CA 91766.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

Monica Belloso
Management Analyst

Julian Ibanez-Mandujano
Chair of the Parks & Recreation Commission