

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Parks Department



DATE: November 25, 2015
COMMISSION MEETING DATE: December 3, 2015

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

RECOMMENDATION

Review and accept report.

BACKGROUND

This report covers Park activities since the Commission's October 1, 2015 meeting.

DISCUSSION

PARK DISTRICT I

With the upcoming creation of Park District VII, and the opportunity for lateral movement in the Department, Park Ranger IIIs Mark Rogers and Jason Brien have accepted transfers. Mark will begin reporting to Park District IV (Mid Coast) and Jason to Park District VII (San Bruno Mountain and Junipero Serra Park). They have both been very valuable members to Park District I's team and we wish them luck with their new assignments.

Park staff has been preparing all parks for an El Niño. Staff has routinely been clearing and monitoring roadways and drainages throughout Park District I.

Coyote Point Recreation Area

The Eastern Shore Project is at the conceptual stage with plans at 60% and one public meeting completed. Staff also met with members of the ADA committee to discuss various accessibility concerns.

Volunteers from VM Ware removed approximately 80 cubic yards of invasive plants along Coyote Point Drive.

Baker Tree Care is continuing a Hazardous Tree Removal project throughout the park. The contract was amended to include additional 15 large eucalyptus and pines that have succumbed to the drought

Coyote Point hosted its first Movie Night in the Park, which was a joint effort between County Parks and the Sheriff's Activity League,

Junipero Serra Park

Eagle Scouts have completed a project at the De Anza trailhead in which they removed curbing at the parking lot and placed base rock from the lot to the trailhead to allow for improved accessibility.

Ranger Ryan Lundgaard led the season's final Take A Hike this November on the scenic Quail Loop Trail.

Crystal Springs Trail

Staff continues to work with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's (SFPUC) project review process for two paving contracts: 1) South of Dam Trail crack sealing along the entire trail and 2) a section in need of repair along San Andreas Trail.

A drunk driver knocked out approximately 60 feet of fencing at San Bruno Avenue, which is the northern most entrance of San Andreas Trail. Luckily, this happened in the very early morning and no one was injured. The fence has since been repaired.

Staff continues to respond to patron complaints involving bicyclists and pedestrians and makes continuing efforts to educate users on trail etiquette to protect user safety.

San Bruno Mountain

Ranger Darrick Emil has worked with three different Eagle Scouts at San Bruno Mountain to clear critical drainages on park property adjacent to the Franciscan Mobile Home Park and remove over 60 cubic yards of overgrowth from the Edward Bacciocco Jr. Day Camp. Having increased ranger presence on the Mountain appears to correlate with a decline in dog contacts on the Saddle Loop Trail.

Staff is currently working to clear drainages along HCP parcels in Brisbane's Mission Blue Development.

PARK DISTRICT II

Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve

For the Take A Hike at Edgewood Park on October 3, staff led two hikes that showcased the park's mixed woodland and serpentine grassland and clear views of the East Bay hills and the coastal range.

On October 18, the Friends of Edgewood hosted their annual meeting at the park, which had well over 60 people attending including PG&E representatives and County Parks staff.

On October 30, volunteers reseeded and moved mulch along the Old Stage Trail,

PG&E finished their testing of the 109 gas line that determined the line is in good condition. County Parks is in the process of working with PG&E to rehabilitate the areas affected by their work.

Flood Park

Park staff are replacing table boards at picnic sites throughout the park.

A large group of 1,000-plus employees attended a LinkedIn Oktoberfest event at the park on October 1, which included booths, live music and games. The company shuttled employees in by bus.

Huddart Park

The playground, which was an old and non-ADA compliant structure, was replaced with a compliant ADA accessible play structure.

A contractor rocked, graded and compacted rock at the Toyon III camping area. An ADA-compliant fire ring and picnic table were also installed there.

CDC crews are doing work at the front entrance and around Toyon Road to reduce fuel load.

Park and maintenance staff replaced the waterline at the maintenance yard, installed new shutoff valves and paved the work area.

Wunderlich Park

Park staff painted the two new structures and installed electricity for the one being used as an operations office for Chaparral Trail Rides.

CDC crews continued fuel reduction along the Alambique Trail in October before the rains. Park staff removed several dead trees along Bear Gulch Trail above the stable.

The spur trail near the front entrance was rocked and the dead vegetation along the sides cut and chipped.

Friendship Park

At a volunteer event on October 17 at the park, gardeners from the surrounding community finished clearing planter boxes getting ready for winter vegetable plantings.

Park staff helps to weed and clean the park, and haul the green waste composting gathered by volunteers.

PARK DISTRICT III-SOUTH COAST

Memorial Park Complex

The Heritage Grove Bridge reopened in October after park maintenance staff replaced broken decking and rails that had been damaged in July when a tree fell onto the bridge.

The dam demolition project and the Sequoia Creek Crossing project in Memorial were completed in November, both of which and were overseen by the San Mateo County Resource Conservation District.

At Memorial on October 17, park staff worked with five Boy Scouts and two leaders to clear brush and improve trail tread on the Nature, Creek, and Whole Access Trails.

On October 27, a fuel station in Memorial Park went online. The park now has a 1,000-gallon gas tank for vehicles (with both unleaded and diesel gas).

On November 10, lightning struck a Douglas fir that resulted in it burning. Fire response was called but there was no reported damage other than the fir tree.

AB109 crews installed trail signposts in Pescadero Creek and Sam McDonald Parks in October and November. The trail system was numbered and new maps were made up showing the changes.

Park staff cleaned ditches and roads in all three parks (Memorial, Sam McDonald and Pescadero Creek Park) and at Loma Mar Redwoods in preparation for El Niño

On November 14, volunteers contributed a workday at the Jack Brook Horse Camp. The volunteers from various equestrian groups put away items used in the summer such as wheelbarrows and hoses, checked valves, and cleaned out restrooms.

PARK DISTRICT IV

Fitzgerald Marine Reserve/Quarry Park/Pillar Point Bluff/Mirada East & West

Staff activities included hosting an evening tide pooling event at the Reserve; installing two new dog stations along the Dardanelle Trail; continuing to clear drainages in preparation for heavy rains; attending Coastside El Niño prep meetings with Office of Emergency Services, repairing the frog pond fence at Mirada Surf West, and responding to requests from the Granada Community Services District for information on ADA.

The Maverick's Surf Competition window is open through the end of March,

San Pedro Valley/Sanchez Adobe/Devil's Slide

Park and maintenance staff, and the contractor repaired Weiler Ranch Road, which involved the installation of three culverts.

General maintenance work included preventative tree pruning at the Sanchez Adobe, hazard tree trimming and removal at San Pedro Valley, and clearing drainages on Devil's Slide Trail.

Staff was also able to attend the trail workshop that Director Finley organized.

PARK DISTRICT V

Maintenance

Staff assisted with numerous projects including the construction of a tack shed next to the annex horse paddocks at Wunderlich Park, hazardous tree removal at various locations, scarifying the hard pan areas as part of the Pigeon Point restoration project, installing culverts on the Weiler Ranch Road, installing a new water line for the Huddart Park shop office, replacing a fire hydrant and repairing water valves at the Marina, and milling lumber for memorial bench boards.

In addition the annual STOPPP inspection of Maintenance's corporation yard was completed, stump grinder training was conducted with Park Districts I, II and IV staff, a new utility trailer was picked up for the Stewardship Corps program, a new 210L John Deere skip loader was received, and equipment was repaired and made ready in anticipation of El Niño.

At the Sign Shop, we completed sign requests for CuriOdyssey, the Human Resources Department, Department of Public Works-Grant Yard, Board of Supervisors' Office and various park districts.