PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA

Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING, YOU CAN PARTICIPATE VIA THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

1. VIEW THE MEETING ONLINE AT: HTTPS://YOUTUBE.COM/@SOUTHGATECA90280
2. PARTICIPATE BEFORE THE MEETING BY EMAILING THE PARKS DIRECTOR AT SCOSTLEY@SOGATE.ORG NO LATER THAN 4:00 P.M. ON THE DAY OF THE MEETING. PLEASE WRITE "PUBLIC COMMENT" ON THE SUBJECT LINE.
3. ATTEND THE MEETING IN PERSON.

Officials

Chair: Alan Flores
Vice Chair: Lizette Ruiz
Secretary: Cynthia Esquivel
Commissioner: Edgar Pelayo
Commissioner: Vacant
Parks & Recreation Director: Steve Costley

Call to Order

Flag Salute

Roll Call

Meeting Compensation Disclosure

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54952.3: Disclosure of compensation for meeting attendance by the Parks & Recreation Commissioners is $75 per meeting.

Report on Posting

I, Ana Medina, Parks & Recreation Executive Assistant, certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Meeting Agenda was properly posted on July 3, 2025 at 5:30 p.m., as required by law.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2025
Recommended Motion: Motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Documents:

02-13-25 Minutes.pdf

Public Comment

During this time, members of the public or staff may address the Parks & Recreation Commission regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. Comments from the audience will be limited to three minutes per speaker; unless authorized by the Commission Chair, the time limit may not be extended by utilizing another member's time. There will be no debate or action on items not listed on the agenda unless authorized by law. NOTE: Obscene language, comments intended to disrupt or interfere with the progress of the meeting, or slanderous comments will not be tolerated and may result in ejection and/or may constitute a violation of South Gate Municipal Code Section 1.04.110.

Presentation

Open Session Items

1. HSA ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024
Recommended Motion: Motion to receive and file.

Documents:

07-10-25 ITEM 1 STAFF REPORT.pdf

2. ORAL REPORT REGARDING QUIMBY FEES
Recommended Motion: Motion to receive and file.

Documents:

07-10-25 ITEM 2 STAFF REPORT.pdf

3. ORAL REPORT ON UPDATE OF THE PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN
Recommended Motion: Motion to receive and file.

Documents:

07-10-25 ITEM 3 STAFF REPORT.pdf

4. SOCIAL & CULTURAL DIVISION REPORT FOR FY 2024/25

Recommended Motion: Motion to receive and file

Documents:

07-10-25 ITEM 4 STAFF REPORT.pdf

Director's Report/Calendar of Events

Parks & Recreation Commission Sub-Committee Reports

Request for Items on Future Agendas

Adjournment

Materials related to an item on the Agenda submitted to the Parks & Recreation Commission after distribution of the agenda packet, are available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 8650 California Avenue, South Gate, California 90280. Telephone: 323.563.951 0, Fax: 323.563.5411, City website, www .cityofsouthgate.org

In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the Parks & Recreation Commission Meetings, please contact the Parks Administration office, 323.357.9645. Notification 48 hours prior to the Meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility.

CALL TO ORDER - Chair Flores called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE - by Secretary Pelayo

Chair Flores called for a moment of silence for the passing of former Police Chief Robert Todd.

ROLL CALL - by Ana Medina, Executive Assistant
Present: Chair Flores, Vice Chair Lizette Ruiz, Secretary Edgar Pelayo and Commissioner Cynthia Esquivel. Commissioner Alejanda Flores had an excused absence.
Staff: Director of Parks & Recreation Steve Costley, Deputy Director Tina Fierro, and Parks Superintendent Glenn Massey.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 12, 2024
Recommended Motion: Motion to approve the minutes as presented.
M/S/C: Vice Chair Ruiz/Secretary Pelayo to approve the minutes as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
Recognized: Mario Dominguez requested the splash pad issue be on a future meeting.
Recognized: Angeline, stated the traveling team Poison went from three games a month to only one, please look into what can be done.
Recognized: Sofia said she enjoys being on the team but doesn't like playing only once a month.

PRESENTATION - None

OPEN SESSION ITEMS

1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS/REORGANIZATION
Recommended Motion: Motion for Commission to nominate and approve a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary for the coming year.
M/S/C: Vice Chair Ruiz/Secretary Pelayo to keep the board as is with Commissioner Esquivel as Secretary.
Director Costley reviewed this item; a discussion ensued.

2. RECREATION PROGRAMING REPORT 2ND QUARTER FY 2024/25
Recommended Motion: Motion to receive and file.
M/S/C: Secretary Pelayo/Commissioner Esquivel
Deputy Director Fierro reviewed this item; a discussion ensued.
Director Costley complemented the Commission as being most active in Park events.
Vice Chair Ruiz asked if the cost of light at Hollydale Regional Park was shared with AYSO, replied no, the City foots the bill.

3. GROUNDS & PARKS FACILITY MAINTENANCE REPORT 2ND QUARTER FY 2024/25
Recommended Motion: Motion to receive and file.
M/S/C: Vice Chair Ruiz/Secretary Pelayo
Parks Supt. Massey reviewed this item; a discussion ensued.

Parks Supt. Massey stated staff has renovated the horseshoe pits and explained what that entails. They also renovated Diamond 5 & 8. Irrigation repair and maintenance is ongoing. Small trees have been raised at the west side parks to ease mowing. Staff replaced 10 drinking fountains in South Gate Park. There were broken main and lateral irrigation lines in Hollydale Regional Park that staff repaired. Staff installed two new sand bunkers in the Golf Course, also the greens were aerified. A discussion ensued.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT / CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Director Costley: The Hollydale Community Park reopening was very successful. Circle Parks is still in progress. Pickle Ball courts have been installed in SG Park's Tennis Court. Orban Orchard is moving quickly, with a possible June opening. Due to budget constraints the new Parks Master Plan had to be cancelled.

Deputy Dir. Fierro: Mentioned upcoming special events. Trips have been very strong. The Annual Sports Center Open House was a huge success. The new event Ties & Tiaras was a great event, very good comments. Tonight, a full bus went to the UCLA vs USC Women's basketball game at the Galen Center. Golf tournament this Sunday. Both full time and hourly staff are working hard to bring the best events possible. The quarterly brochure has gone to print and will come out soon.
Easter Fest, April 12; Easter Splash, April 13; Youth Sports Camp, April 14-18, ages 7-12; Mom Prom, April 26; Art Exhibit Opening Playgrounds/Jugamos, May 3; to name a few

Parks Supt. Massey: Tree trimming at Hollydale Regional Park is ongoing. Ball field renovations is also ongoing. Staff began soccer field renovation at Hollydale Regional Park.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Vice Chair Ruiz: Was impressed with the turnout at the Hollydale Community Park reopening.

Secretary Pelayo: No comment

Commissioner Flores: No comment

REQUEST FOR ITEMS ON FUTURE AGENDAS

Secretary Pelayo would like to have a report on the public's response of the survey and a discussion of the splash pad. A report on revenue generating opportunities. Deputy Dir. Fierro stated the survey would remain open until the end of summer, a report would probably be brought in September.
Vice Chair Ruiz would like a report on why the traveling team was cut to only once a month.
Commissioner Esquivel wanted the status of the shade for Diamonds 8 & 10.

ADJOURNMENT - At 8:15 p.m. Chair Flores asked for a motion to adjourn.
M/S/C: Commissioner Esquivel/Vice Chair Ruiz

Respectfully submitted:

_____

Edgar Pelayo, Secretary
Parks & Recreation Commission

City of South Gate

Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting
July 10, 2025

STAFF REPORT ITEM No. 1

To: **Honorable Parks & Recreation Commission**
From: **Steve Costley, Director of Parks & Recreation**
Date: **June 25, 2025**

Subject: **HSA Annual Report for 2024**

Recommended Motion: Motion to Receive and File

Report Summary: Since 2006, the Human Services Association (HSA) has operated the City's two Community Resource Center buildings; the Westside Center on State Street and the Hollydale Center on Industrial Avenue. As part of their operating agreements, HSA is required to submit a report to the Commission annually indicating their activities and accomplishments over the past year. The report for 2024 is attached for the Commission's review.

The purpose of these agreements is to take facilities that the City may not be able to afford to operate and make them useful to the Community while supporting a local non-profit organization. As is demonstrated, HSA provides a wide variety of Social and Community Services from these facilities, primarily to South Gate residents. By utilizing these facilities in this way and creating partnerships, the City is able to provide a wider variety of service and therefore meet many community needs that might not otherwise be met.

In addition to the programs that HSA would normally run, our agreement requires them to offer afterschool tutoring during the school year. HSA is also required by the terms of the agreement to have a Neighborhood Advisory Committee to recommend additional programs that would benefit the surrounding community.

Along with City staff, a representative from HSA will be present to answer any questions.

Attachment: 1

:am

Human Services Association

PASITOS EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION DEPARTMENT 2024- 2025 SOUTH GATE ANNUAL REPORT (WESTSIDE RESOURCE & HOLLYDALE CENTERS)

Where Caring Becomes Doing

Introduction:

Human Services Association (HSA) is a private nonprofit multi-purpose community-based agency providing a wide range of social and early educational services to families of southeast Los Angeles County and surrounding cities. The principal mission of HSA is to provide families with compassionate and comprehensive care to promote wellness and build strong communities. We are an organization dedicated to helping residents recognize and resolve individual, family, and community problems that inhibit personal growth. Our agency's motto is "*Where Caring Becomes Doing*." We aim to provide the individual interaction, personalized care, learning, exploration, and play that are essential components of an effective early childhood experience.

HSA is made-up of three main departments: Pasitos Early Childhood Education Department (Pasitos), Family Services Department and Senior Services Department.

The Pasitos Department educational philosophy is that children learn better, when they are exposed to all areas of growth and development by using different techniques and appropriate materials. A child develops a variety of approaches to learning, social emotional development, language development and communication, cognitive and physical development while enjoying their time in a physically safe environment. Through Active Learning, our teachers will accomplish these goals by developing a variety of engaging, hands-on activities by participating in children's play. We utilize the High/Scope Curriculum in the Centers. They are designed to provide children from diverse cultural and economic backgrounds with the interactions, opportunities, and experiences that will help them reach their full potential in all developmental domains (physical, cognitive, language, emotional, and social).

All Funded Programs and activities operated by Pasitos are made available to all qualified persons without regard to sex, sexual orientation, gender, ethic group identification, race, ancestry, national origin, religion, color, mental or physical disability. Pasitos provides anti-bias environments and services that teach, respect, and welcome all children and their families. Staff provides a diversified learning environment, which is supportive of each child's culture and respectful of the family's welfare and values. As each child's situation is unique, all students will be addressed on an individual basis.

2024-25 Program Year Accomplishments:



The Westside Resource Center operated year-round during the 2024–2025 program year, with closures observed on weekends and designated holidays. Unlike the previous three years, in-person services were no longer impacted by COVID-19. However, the program continued to implement established health and safety protocols as a precautionary measure.

Pasitos offered a wide range of comprehensive services to residents of the City of South Gate (90280), while also extending support to families residing in neighboring communities, including Huntington Park, Bell, Bell Gardens, Cudahy, and Lynwood.

Throughout the 2024–2025 program year, the Westside Resource Center and Hollydale Center remained key hubs for family and community services. The Hollydale Center operated Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., while the Westside Center maintained extended hours from 6:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., with additional evening hours scheduled as needed for special events and activities.

Services provided to the community at the Westside Resource Center:

Monthly parent meetings at the Westside Resource Center were held on the second Tuesday of each month, beginning in July 2024. These sessions consistently drew an average attendance of approximately 15 parents. Throughout the academic year, parent training sessions—focused on child development, health, nutrition, and mental well-being—were made available both in-person and virtually via Zoom to families with children enrolled at the sites. Additionally, a new 10-week parent education program, *Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors*, was introduced to offer comprehensive support and training for parents.

Westside Center: Home-Based Program Socialization Activities:



Twice each month, the Westside Center comes alive with the energy of children enrolled in the Early Head Start Home-Based program as they participate in Socialization activities. These engaging sessions, each lasting a minimum of two hours, serve as a vital component of the program, promoting both social connection and developmental learning.

Parents play an essential role in shaping these experiences. They actively contribute to the planning and evaluation of the socializations during home visits and at the events themselves, fostering a collaborative environment where learning and play are seamlessly integrated. These gatherings are more than just enjoyable moments—they are opportunities to build lasting relationships and foundational skills.

The impact extends beyond the center, as parents are provided with valuable resources and information that empower them to support their child's growth and development at home. This holistic approach to early childhood education ensures that every interaction is meaningful, enriching, and aligned with long-term developmental goals.

Westside Center: California State Preschool Program Full Day:

Throughout the 2024–2025 academic year, in-person preschool services were consistently delivered to children aged 2 to 5, providing a developmentally appropriate and enriching educational experience. Program hours ranged from 6.5 to 11 hours per day, five days a week,

operating year-round to support sustained learning and growth. Classrooms adhered to established capacity limits to ensure an optimal environment for both instruction and social interaction.

To support children with special needs or behavioral challenges, additional staff were assigned as necessary to promote successful inclusion and engagement within the classroom setting. The program extended its impact beyond the classroom by offering comprehensive support services to children and their families. Communication with families was maintained through multiple channels—including Zoom, phone, email, and text—ensuring continuous access to educational updates and developmental resources.

Monthly meetings involving teachers, Family Advocates, and parents fostered strong home-school collaboration, aligning efforts to support each child's progress. Children also received educational materials to reinforce learning at home. Recognizing the diverse needs of families, the program provided access to essential resources such as food pantries, rental assistance, and mental health support. Mental health services were also made available to parents upon request, reinforcing the program's commitment to holistic family well-being.

The preschool program demonstrated a comprehensive, family-centered approach to early childhood education—prioritizing individualized support, active family engagement, and strong community partnerships to promote the optimal development of every child.

Westside Center: California State Preschool Program Part Day:



In-person preschool services were provided to 16 children per session, ages 3 to 5, for three hours daily, five days a week, over a 10-month period. The program offered a structured educational experience within a classroom setting, complemented by comprehensive support services for both children and their families.

Children with special needs or behavioral challenges received individualized support through the assignment of an additional staff member, ensuring successful integration and positive peer interactions. Disabilities and Inclusion staff provided further assistance within the classroom, while Mental Health Specialists collaborated with both staff and parents to offer targeted support as needed.

Families remained engaged through ongoing remote services delivered via Zoom, phone, email, and text. Monthly meetings between teachers or Family Advocates and parents facilitated consistent communication and collaboration. When necessary, distance learning options were also made available. Children received educational materials to support their participation, and tablets were distributed to families in need to ensure equitable access to learning resources.

In addition to educational support, families were connected with essential community resources, including food pantries, rental assistance, and mental health services. Mental health support was also made available to parents upon request, reinforcing the program's commitment to holistic family well-being.

Services provided to the Hollydale Center:



Parent gatherings at the Hollydale Center convened monthly, on the second Friday of each month, starting from July 2024, and were held in person. On average, five parents attended these sessions. Throughout the academic year, parents of enrolled children received training sessions on child development, health, nutrition, and mental well-being.

Pasitos has (8) preschool centers located within city of South Gate. At the end of the school year, in May or June 2025, a School Readiness/ Transition activity, which is the culmination activity of the children. Teachers set-up various activities wherein the parent and child were able to work together to complete tasks and/or projects. About 205 preschool children completed our Pasitos preschool programs this year, ready to enter South Gate Kindergarten classes within the surrounding elementary schools. And, about 208 children are eligible to return for a second year in the program.

Current Preschool Services at Westside and Hollydale Centers:

Site/ Class	Program	Number of Children Enrolled
Westside 1	State/Head Start	24
Westside 2	State/ Head Start	24
Westside 3	State	15
Westside 4 AM/ PM	State	30
Hollydale 1	Early Head Start	8
Hollydale 2	Early Head Start	8

Onsite at the Westside Resource Center

Family Advocates are available to answer questions and make necessary referrals for the children and families. Community collaborators brought flyers to ensure ongoing information is available to the South Gate community families.

Every week, approximately five individuals walk in and 20 more inquire via phone about the array of programs available at both the Westside Resource Center and the Hollydale Center, as well as throughout the City of South Gate. The busiest times of the year where we have walk-ins were in May – August. Since July 2024, our Family Advocates have been actively engaging with families bi-weekly through phone calls, emails, and text messages, offering various services tailored to their needs. To ensure comprehensive support, we utilize resources such as the South Gate website and the VISTA South Gate City Newsletter and Parks & Recreation Guide. At our front desk, common inquiries revolve around Medi-Cal, GED classes, job openings, English classes, CPR classes, WIC information, youth programs, summer park programs, and Pasitos enrollment. We take pride in our strong foundation at both centers and in our familiarity with the multitude of resources and services available throughout South Gate. Families across the city appreciate the

personalized assistance we provide, extending beyond preschool programs to encompass the wealth of opportunities across South Gate.

South Gate Police Department and Fire Department have been gracious in agreeing to visit our sites to teach children about safety. Children were also able to experience sitting in the police car and inspect the fire trucks.

Employees participated in community events, such as the LGBTQ+ Pride Picnic, Fall into Health, Father Involvement, Movies and Concerts at the Park, and Back to School Backpack give-away, to promote the programs and services offered by HSA to the community.

Parent Support Services

Parents from the Pasitos program and the parents from the community (not enrolled in our program) received weekly parent nutrition and well-being (mental health) sessions. Parents shared and discussed different issues related to their home environment, food habits, parenting, child rearing, and family. Approximately 10 parents participated in this school year. We provided individual counseling at the Westside Resource Center for those families that needed intensive services; provided childcare in each meeting.

The topics below highlight the workshops provided:

- Self-Care, Breathing, and Relaxing Practices (1 class)
- High/Scope Curriculum (1 class)
- Parenting Classes (6 Sessions)
- Domestic Violence trainings (1 class)
- Positive Solution for Families (Part 1 - 4 classes)
- Positive Solution for Families (Part II -2 classes)
- CFC Nutrition Workshop (4 classes)
- Abriendo Puertas (6 Sessions)

State Preschool at the Westside Resource Center

School session started July 1, 2024 and will continue thru June 30, 2025. Breakfast, lunch, and/or snack was provided to the children enrolled in the program, following the USDA guidelines for meals.

The most important goal of our early childhood curriculum is to help children become enthusiastic learners. This means encouraging children to be active and creative explorers who are not afraid to try out their ideas and to think their own thoughts. Our goal is to help children become independent, self-confident, inquisitive learners. We are teaching them *how* to learn, not just in preschool, but all through their lives. We are allowing them to learn at their own pace and in the ways that are best for them. We are giving those good habits and attitudes, particularly a positive sense of themselves, which will make a difference throughout their lives.

Our curriculum identifies goals in all areas of development:

- ***Social:*** To help children feel comfortable in school, trust their new environment, make

friends, and feel they are a part of the group.

- ***Emotional***: To help children experience pride and self-confidence, develops independence and self-control, and have a positive attitude toward life.
- ***Cognitive***: To help children become confident learners by letting them try out their own ideas and experience success, and by helping them acquire learning skills such as the ability to solve problems, ask questions, and use words to describe their ideas, observations, and feelings.
- ***Physical***: To help children increase their large and small muscle skills and feel confident about what their bodies can do.

The activities we plan for children, the way we organize the environment, select toys and materials, plan the daily schedule, and talk with children, are all designed to accomplish the goals of our curriculum and give your child a successful start in school.

HSA Pasitos Early Childhood Education Department utilizes the **High/Scope Curriculum.** The selected curriculum ensure alignment with the California Preschool Learning Foundations and California Preschool Curriculum Framework, School Readiness Goals, Ongoing Assessment (DRDP 2015), and the integration of service areas into the curriculum.

The High/Scope Curriculum emphasizes on "active participatory learning". High/Scope is a comprehensive educational approach that strives to help children to develop in all areas.

High/Scope focuses on the following fundamental principles:

- ✓ To learn through active involvement with people, materials, events and ideas.
- ✓ To become independent, responsible and confident – ready for school and ready for life.
- ✓ To learn to plan many of their own activities, carry them out and talk with others about what they have done and what they have planned.

In the classrooms, the teachers follow a predictable sequence of events known as the daily routine. This provides a structure within the children to make choices and decisions, follow their interests, and develop their abilities in each content area.

The **outdoor environment** is reflective of the classroom environment. Within this structure, teachers organize child-initiated and teacher-directed learning experiences that are intended to address the developmental areas of learning. Through experiences with materials in the different sites, verbal interactions with peers, and scaffold instruction with adults, the child is expected to learn and develop in all areas. The goal is for children to become independent, self-confident, inquisitive and enthusiastic learners to acquire school readiness skills necessary for the future.

Family Advocates are committed to supporting parents as they navigate the transition to kindergarten, hosting monthly meetings and providing essential resources to ensure families feel informed and prepared. As the school year drew to a close, children were treated to engaging activities, including a captivating bubble show on April 29, 2024 sparking their curiosity and allowing them to explore scientific concepts. Further easing the transition, on May 6, 20204, a kindergarten teacher from Victoria Elementary School visited Westside to discuss classroom activities and expectations with the eager children. Meanwhile, on June 5, 2024, parents will have

the opportunity to learn about the services offered to kindergarten students from an elementary school teacher, empowering them to advocate for their child's needs. Finally, on June 28, 20204, a culmination activity will celebrate both parents and children, with teachers setting up interactive tables to foster positive parent-child interactions, underscoring the collective commitment to nurturing successful transitions and fostering strong family-school partnerships.

Early Head Start at the Hollydale Center

Hollydale Center is a program that services children 18 months to 3 years. The programs provides a variety of experiences for the development of the child's fullest potential are provided through this program, which has a strong commitment to the community. This involvement has been at the core of the development of many social service programs offered through HSA. A variety of experiences for the development of the child's fullest potential are provided through this program, which has a strong commitment to the community.

The High Scope Curriculum emphasizes on "Active Participatory Learning." High Scope is a comprehensive educational approach that strives to help children to develop in all areas. In the classrooms, the teachers follow a predictable sequence of events known as the daily routine. This provides a structure within the children to make choices and decisions, follow their interest, and develop their abilities in each content area.

In the 2024-25 academic year, we embarked on the third year of implementing the **Conscious Discipline curriculum**, aimed at supporting teachers in managing behavioral issues within their classrooms. *Conscious Discipline* is an evidence-based, trauma-informed approach. It is recognized by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration's (SAMHSA's) National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices (NREPP), and received high ratings in 8 of 10 categories in a Harvard analysis of the nation's top 25 social-emotional learning programs. The Harvard study's authors say, "*Conscious Discipline provides an array of behavior management strategies and classroom structures that teachers can use to turn everyday situations into learning opportunities*."

The core methodology is based on four essential components that are scientifically and practically design for success:

- ✓ **Brain State Model:** The Conscious Discipline Brain State Model recognizes three basic brain / body / mind states likely to produce certain behaviors. Intentional, state- specific responses enable access to advanced skills.
- ✓ **Seven Powers for Conscious Adults:** The seven powers create a shift in the way adults see conflict so we can maintain composure and consciously respond to difficult situations. Adults' ability to self-regulate is the precursor to teaching children social-emotional skills.
- ✓ **Creating the School Family:** The School Family increases connections between adults and children at all levels, ensuring optimal development for all. A School Family culture is built through consistent modeling of routines, rituals and structures.
- ✓ **Seven Skills of Discipline:** These seven skills transform everyday discipline issues into teachable moments, equipping children with the social-emotional and communication skills needed to manage themselves resolve conflict and develop healthy behavior.

Conscious Discipline Curriculum is a comprehensive classroom management program and social-emotional curriculum. It is based on brain and child development research as well as developmentally appropriate practices. Conscious Discipline is a social-emotional learning program designed by Dr. Becky Bailey.

- The program supports first teaching ourselves about self-control and self-regulation and then teaching children.
- It helps us see how we respond to upset and understand our emotions, and how to regulate ourselves when we are triggered.
- In short, it teaches us how to be conscious as adults of what we are saying to children, and what behaviors we are modeling.
- What is really wonderful is that it is an inside-out program.
- It teaches adults to manage their own emotions when upset, sad, happy, or when angry. Then it teaches us how we can teach children the same thing.
- Children too can manage their own emotions when upset and understand their own feeling,

There will be no use of corporal punishment or other forms of punishment that involve emotional or physical abuse or humiliation of any child in our program. Children will always be under the direct visual supervision of teaching staff.

Community Impact:

Throughout the academic year, our program prioritized mental health support for staff, children, and families. To address the growing need in this area, we expanded our team by hiring additional staff to provide mental health services and support for special education. This decision was prompted by an increase in children exhibiting areas of concern in these domains, as well as a rise in the number of children with special needs.

Furthermore, workforce shortages have posed a challenge for our program, as we actively sought qualified teachers capable of offering care to both children and families within our program and the wider community.

Additionally, demand for enrollment at the Hollydale Center remains high, leading to a waiting list for children seeking admission. This shortage is particularly pronounced for programs catering to children below the age of three.

Goals and Objectives for 2025-26 SY

Based on the Community Needs Assessment (CNA) conducted by Human Services Association in 2024, the following continue to be the priorities for the program service at the Westside Resource Center and the Hollydale Center:

- Full-day services to children 3 years and younger
- Support services for homeless children and families
- Support services foster children/ kinship care
- Early education preschool for children ages 0-5
- Support services for families receiving public assistance (SSI, TANF, SNAP)
- Inclusion for children with disabilities

- Support services children and parents with mental health concerns
- Parent engagement in the program
- High-risk families with stressors and who have experienced trauma or domestic violence
- Single parent families, including teen parents
- Children who have active cases with Los Angeles county DCFS, the public child protective services agency.

Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting
July 10, 2025

STAFF REPORT ITEM No. 2

To: **Honorable Parks & Recreation Commission**
From: **Steve Costley, Director of Parks & Recreation**
Date: **June 25, 2025**

Subject: **Oral Report Regarding Quimby Fees**

Recommended Motion: Motion to Receive and File

Report Summary: At the February 13, 2025 Commission Meeting, it was requested that a report giving more details on Quimby fees be brought to a future meeting. Community Development Director Gabriel Perez will be giving the report.

Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting
July 10, 2025

STAFF REPORT ITEM No. 3

To: **Honorable Parks & Recreation Commission**
From: **Steve Costley, Director of Parks & Recreation**
Date: **June 26, 2025**

Subject: **Oral Report on Update of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan**

Recommended Motion: Motion to Receive and File

Report Summary: A Parks & Recreation Master Plan for South Gate was approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission and adopted by the City Council in November 2008. As part of the implementation process for the Parks Master Plan, annual updates are to be given to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting
July 10, 2025

STAFF REPORT ITEM No. 4

To: **Honorable Parks & Recreation Commission**
From: **Nicki Salazar, Recreation Supervisor**
Date: **June 28, 2024**
Subject: **Social & Cultural Division Report for FY 2024/25**

Recommended Motion: Motion to Receive and File

Report Summary:

Special Events:
Summer Concerts in the Park Series were held every Friday night in July at the South Gate Bandstand. The series included the following bands: Corazon de Mana, Los Del Momento, Grupo Neblina, and Mariachi Divas. Our new and improved concert series featured the TAP truck beer garden, food trucks, vendors, youth/adult sports staff leading Rec on the Run, and our Cultural Arts staff leading art activities every week. Each week the beer garden included cocktail tables, color changing cups (with Concert logo), and board games. Three to four different food trucks were available each week for all concert goers to enjoy a bite to eat while listening to the performances. Tampico & Celsius were in attendance every week with giveaways galore. Rec on the Run included jumbo sized yard games, pick up soccer games, cornhole tournaments, and more. The art activities offered included: DIY band patches, conga drums, and sombreros. This concert series provided opportunities for all ages to be entertained and enjoy a nice relaxing summer evening at the park. Due to the newly added improvements, we've seen a significant increase in attendance and averaged between 600-700 attendees.

Summer Movies in the Park Series was held every Friday night in August at the South Gate Golf Course. The series included the following movies: Kung Fu Panda 4, Haunted Mansion, Trolls - Band Together, Wonka, and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Mutant Mayhem. This summer series also had a new addition of a snack/ice cream truck being in site for each movie. The snack/ ice cream truck was well received and remained consistently busy the entirety of the movie. Each movie night averaged approximately 200 attendees.

Our first ever Family Night was held, and it was Game Night edition - Minute to Win It. This event had 40 registered participants and families battled it out at the Girls Club House. The event featured various 1-minute challenges from the game show "Minute to Win It". Families were shown a preview clip of the challenge and would then decide

who from their team would compete. This event catered to all ages and anyone could participate, we had 5-year-olds competing against seniors. Once the competition was over, families enjoyed a nice dinner that consisted of pizza, salad, and dessert. The overall winning team received free admission to our next Family Night (Reptile Show) on November 15.

On October 31, at South Gate Park our team hosted our Annual Halloween Haunt event. This year we had a complete re-vamp and setup that featured our Show Mobile as the main stage. At the main stage we hosted our costume contest, stage games and ended the evening with a dance contest full of great energy. The event also included Halloween decorations throughout, DIY slime kits, DIY cookie decorating kits, photobooths, game booths, jumpers, trackless trains, and food trucks. The event was heavily promoted through marquees, billboards, our brochure, and social media outlets which ensured a great turnout.

Our 2nd Family Night in November was our sold-out Reptile Show, we had 50 registered attendees. Paramount Pet Entertainment hosted a 2-hour interactive reptile show that allowed participants to end the evening holding a 15-foot python. The event also included arts and crafts, and a family dinner.

The Veteran's Day event was held on November 9, and we had approximately 50 attendees. This year's guest speaker was FC1 (SW) Felicia Dawn Luna who is also a South Gate resident. Felicia was presented with a proclamation and recognized for her service. Kiwani's Kids were also a part of the program as they prepared and read their "Thank you" Veteran letters. Light refreshments and beverages were available for all in attendance. After the completion of Veteran's Day, staff headed over to table a booth at Family Day in the Park. Our information booth promoted upcoming events and a plethora of giveaways.

Santa's Breakfast was held on Saturday, December 9 and had 400 registered attendees. The event included a delicious breakfast, a "new" hot chocolate station, holiday crafts, raffle prizes, and photos with Santa. Each child was able to walk away with a special gift from Santa. Volunteers from the Key Club and Miss South Gate assisted in making the event a success.

Our first ever Tiaras and Ties Dance was held in January at the Girls Club House. This sold-out event celebrated the special bond between father (or special male figure) and daughters. All attendees enjoyed a magical evening from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Guests arrived in formal attire and were treated to a lively DJ, a photo booth, and a delicious dinner featuring chicken fettuccine alfredo, side salad, dessert, and drinks. The evening included line dances, a traditional father-daughter dance, and the Stroll. The venue was beautifully decorated, creating an enchanting atmosphere. Each girl and her male guest received a special gift to commemorate the night, making it a truly unforgettable experience.

For Easter Fest 2025, our team prepared a fun-filled day full of activities at the South Gate Golf Course. Eggs, bags, wristbands, and snow cone supplies have been purchased. Carnival games and our bunny photo area supplies are also ready. DJ Gilbert, a photo booth, two face painters, a food truck, and a soft play area have also

been secured to enhance the event overall. Our goal this year was to create lasting memories for all ages; we have activities planned for everyone to participate in. Anyone from the age of 6 months old in the soft play area to our seniors who can participate in our first ever adult egg hunt. The event is sold out and set to take place next quarter.

Mom Prom was new this year and held in the month of April at the Girls Club House. This event was also sold-out and provided the opportunity for Mothers (or special female figures) and their sons to enjoy an evening full of fun. Guests arrived in their 80's retro themed attire and were treated to a lively DJ, a photo booth, and a delicious dinner featuring chicken fettuccine alfredo, side salad, dessert, and drinks. The venue was beautifully decorated, and the black lights really made the neon décor pop. Each boy and his female guest received a special gift to end the evening.

Youth Programs:

Tiny Two's and Tot Time class offerings fluctuated quarterly due to staff shortages. Participants of summer enjoyed classroom time with endless summer themed projects and excursions for all participants to enjoy. Thankfully the wonderful California weather was in our favor and our team made a visit to Wild Rivers. Tot Time and Tiny Two's concluded their summer sessions with the GCH Main Hall being transformed into toddler heaven with a worm play pen, slide, small jumper, mini basketball court and tricycles. In addition to the play area our classes collaborated with the pool and provided an end of session pool party for classes.

New for the Fall session, staff organized a Trunk or Treat event that was held on October 29 and 30 for all Tiny Two and Tot Time program participants. We had over 50 decorated vehicles and participating families across both days. Families really got into the Halloween spirit and proudly decorated their themed trunks for the children to enjoy. All participating vehicles were recognized and received a Halloween themed certificate, and our 3 winners were crowned in the following categories: Spookiest, Funniest, and Most Creative. The event included music, photo areas, a costume parade, and trunk-or-treating, with candy provided by the organizers and donations.

Spring Session for Tot Time and Tiny 2's was all about excursions. In addition to the classroom setting and learning, our participants had the opportunity to attend two amazing excursions. Our first excursion was to the LA County Fair where our participants started with a tour of the barn, gardens, and farm animal exhibitions. Once the fair opened our groups were able to head in and enjoy all the fair offerings. The second excursion planned was Adventure City, a toddler amusement park. This trip was well received and hit maximum capacity within a few days. Participants were able to ride mini roller coasters, trains, and a carousel.

Lil Chefs had 2 class offerings every quarter for this class series, all 8 classes reached maximum participants on the first day of registration. Our 5-week cooking series taught children safety, etiquette, and how to prepare dishes like wonton tacos, BBQ chicken roll ups, Cornish hens, fruit parfaits, and other delicious desserts.

Teen Programs:

This year Teen programming was frozen due to the vacancy of our Full Time Recreation Coordinator. We are thrilled that we were able to fill the position in June and are currently in the beginning phases of a Teen program re-vamp.

Senior Services:

Summer at the senior center introduced exciting options like yoga, Lotería, and a mental health support group. All new editions were designed to enhance and enrich the lives of our seniors. Of course, our beloved bingo continues to draw in a large crowd on Wednesday afternoons, along with lively dance and karaoke sessions on Thursday mornings. The HSA lunch program remains a cornerstone of our offerings, providing healthy meals every day. Additionally, we hosted special presentations from various insurance providers to keep our seniors informed about upcoming changes to Medicare and medical enrollment. The summers scheduled trips included: Valley View Casino, Orange County Fair, Soboba Casino, Agua Caliente Casino, The Grove, Newport Whale Watching Tour, Catalina Island, Festival of Art and ended with a trip to Solvang.

Fall at the Senior Center again presented a new and engaging activity for our seniors. Our new offering: an ESL class tailored specifically for seniors and a program through HSA that provided healthy food and easy recipe options for seniors to try at home. The Senior Center held a variety of exciting events. The Halloween social was a hit with seniors, featuring raffle prizes, goody bags, and a DJ. In November, Alta Med hosted an event filled with games and prizes for the seniors, and in December, a local choir performed for them during lunch. Before our Christmas break, they had their annual Christmas social, which included the 25 Days of Christmas raffle and treat bags for all. In addition to these events, we scheduled nine trips for our seniors. These trips included visits to Fantasy Casino, Getty Villa, Tanaka Farm, Día de Los Muertos celebrations in Hollywood and San Diego, Morongo Casino, Winter Fest, Vejas Casino, and a holiday cruise.

Winter season was exceptionally active, with a full calendar of excursions and events that brought our senior community together in joyful and meaningful ways. In February, we partnered with Alta Med to host a special Valentine's Day event for our seniors. Love and friendship were in the air as this event featured a DJ, a jewelry maker, and numerous raffles. Continuing our commitment to supporting the emotional well-being of our seniors, our center has maintained a strong partnership with Los Angeles Mental Health. The senior support group, launched last year, expanded due to high demand and now meets three times a week, offering an essential resource for mental health support. Winter adventures had nine scheduled trips, including visits to Disney on Ice, Pala Casino, Palm Springs Tram, Harrah's Casino, the Museum of Neon, Huntington Library, Pauma Casino, the theatrical performance of Harry Potter & The Cursed Child, and Descanso Gardens.

Spring season like in years past was no different, we again were a part of the Annual Southeast Senior Ball, this event originated here in South Gate and has grown exponentially over the years. This year's event was hosted between 12 participating cities at the Commerce Casino. Each city chartered in 50 of their own seniors to enjoy a catered lunch, coffee bar, photo booth, and giveaways. The dance floor was jam packed and many memories were made.

Contract Classes:

Our core group of offerings of baby boogie, folklorico, ballet, hip hop, tap, tumbling, cheerleading, and self-defense remained steady across this fiscal year. With offerings varying Monday through Thursday evenings, it was easy for participants to find something that accommodated their family's schedule. Registration for these classes on average reached maximum capacity every quarter with a slight dip in the winter due to the colder weather. Our amazing contractors and the classes they teach keep our participants consistently coming back for more.

At the end of each quarter, participants had the option to perform in our dance recitals. Our dance recitals were held at the end of the nine-week sessions and students were able to showcase their new skills and dance routines. All recitals were held in the Henry C. Gonzalez Auditorium and spanned over three nights with an average audience of 350-500 each night. Our participants and their families really enjoyed these recitals as they are the culmination of their child's nine weeks of learning.

Golf Course:

This year on the Golf Course, we maintained a lively blend of our regular players while welcoming many fresh faces. Our course also served as the backdrop for local high schools' practices and matches. Guests enjoyed playing nine holes on a meticulously maintained green, enhanced by a few new changes to the course. We hosted four exciting quarterly golf tournaments throughout the year that drew in large crowds. Each tournament winner was awarded a trophy and golf themed prizes.

Cultural Arts:

Summer for our Cultural Arts division began with the hosting of their Third Annual Zine Fiesta which included curating vendors, mapping out the layout, promotion on social media, and the distribution of printed mini posters and flyers. The Zine Fiesta was held in conjunction with the opening of our Oír de Nuevo/Press Repeat exhibit and The Eastside Exhibition partnership (group art exhibit that highlights local printmakers). New to our exhibit this quarter was open studio Saturdays and themed drop-in art activities. Our guitar picks charm bracelets/necklaces were a hit! Additional collaborations the team was able to participate in was an art activity at the Chicxs Rockerxs SELA 10th year anniversary of their end of camp showcase. Arts for LA ACTIVATE program came to an end and our team was hard at work organizing the final event: Art & Picnic - Picnic at the Museum! The cohort decided to celebrate in Southeast Los Angeles and the event was held at our Museum & Art Gallery.

Cultural Arts kicked off fall with hosting their 4th Annual South Gate Art Walk which had 5 workshops led by partner organizations, 2 live DJs, 4 live performances, 2 live visual artists, 45 vendors/artisans, 2 art exhibits and the museum permanent collection on display along with SG Sounds and a new section of the museum that displayed historic kitchenette and tools, and an Amelia Earhart display. Back again this year was the Community Altar that had 37 photo submissions of community loved ones who have passed. Our team edited and framed photos and made clay Pan De Muertos to place onto the altar. The Community Altar was built in the City Hall lobby that was on view for a week. After our Community Altar, our team worked with the Chicxs Rockerxs SELA again to curate and exhibit 10 years' worth of camp rock magic. The opening reception of the museum exhibit was on Saturday, November 16. There was a full exhibit in the

lobby and museum, activation areas, photo opportunities, artists/vendors and stencil/band logo workshop. The Los Angeles Times wrote an article about CRSELA's work and exhibition. Our Cultural Arts staff created a playlist in celebration of the CRSELA exhibition. NBC 4 Los Angeles highlighted the exhibition in one of their segments. Our staff also guided some of the CRSELA leaders in archiving steps for breakdown of the lobby displays.

Spring had new classes available at the Museum & Art Gallery: Toddler Art Club and Art Club For Adults. These classes had such a great response that they will stay a part of the team's core offerings. Playgrounds ¿Jugamos? group art exhibit had an open call and received 62 art submissions. Staff reviewed, curated, completed artwork loan agreements and artwork drop-offs. The opening reception took place on Saturday, May 3. Our Cultural Arts Coordinator Jennifer Mejia was invited to be part of The Music Center (TMC) Partner Network Initiative which is a cohort of arts and culture leaders, community organizers, and artists that convey with TMC as a think tank, sounding board, and co-creator of programming. Jennifer was also accepted into the inaugural 2025 California Collections Care Training Cohort which is part of Balboa Art Conservation Center's California Inclusive Preservation Program (CIPP). Over the course of ten months cohort participants will engage in online lectures, multiple discussion sessions as well as in-person workshops to refresh their hands-on skills like collection examination, condition reporting, and collection re-housing. Lastly an additional item to note for this division is that the South Gate Museum is featured in a new book *Also on View: Unique and Unexpected Museums of Greater Los Angeles* by Todd Lerew. Photoshoot of the museum was taken back in May 2022.