PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA

Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

SOUTH GATE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
8650 CALIFORNIA AVE
SOUTH GATE CA 90280

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING, YOU CAN PARTICIPATE VIA THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:
1. TO VIEW THE MEETING ONLINE, GO TO 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" IN THE SUBJECT LINE.
3. ATTEND THE MEETING IN PERSON

***THE DISRUPTION IN SERVICE OF ANY ALTERNATIVE METHOD DOES NOT PRECLUDE THE CITY COUNCIL OR OTHER LEGISLATIVE BODY FROM TAKING FURTHER ACTION AND MOVING FORWARD ON THE AGENDA.**

Officials
Chair: Alan Flores
Vice Chair: Lizette Ruiz
Secretary: Cynthia Esquivel
Commissioner: Edgar Pelayo
Commissioner: Eric Trujillo
Interim Parks & Recreation Director: Tina De La Rosa

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, Executive Assistant, certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Meeting Agenda was properly posted on February 5, 2026 at 5:30 p.m., as required by law.

Approval of Meeting Minutes - None

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 - None

Open Session Items

1. REORGANIZATION
Recommended Motion: The Commission is to nominate and approve a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary for the coming year.

Documents:

02-12-26 ITEM 1 STAFF REPORT.pdf

2. REVIEW OF RECREATION PROGRAMS REPORT - 2ND QUARTER FY 2025/26
Recommended Motion: Motion to receive and file

Documents:

02-12-26 ITEM 2 STAFF REPORT.pdf

3. REVIEW OF GROUNDS & FACILITY MAINTENANCE - 2ND QUARTER FY 2025/26
Recommended Motion: Motion to receive and file

Documents:

02-12-26 ITEM 3 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.

Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting
February 12, 2026

STAFF REPORT ITEM No. 1

To: **Honorable Parks & Recreation Commission**
From: **Tina Fierro, Interim Parks & Recreation Director**
Date: **January 15, 2026**

Subject: **Reorganization**

Recommended Motion: The Commission must nominate and approve a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary for the coming year.

Report Summary: As has been the practice of the Commission, each February, at the regular Commission meeting, nominations and elections are held to appoint a new Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary for the Commission's coming year, these positions become effective immediately.

The Chair should solicit nominations from the members present, once all Commissioners have had the opportunity to make a nomination for each position and create a slate it is then discussed and then a vote taken, confirming the slate.

:am

Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting
February 12, 2026

STAFF REPORT ITEM No. 2

To: **Honorable Parks & Recreation Commission**
From: **Tina De La Rosa, Interim Director of Parks & Rec.**
Date: **January 22, 2026**
Subject: **Review of Recreation Programs – 2nd Quarter FY 2025/26**

Recommended Motion: Motion to Receive and File

Aquatics

Throughout the fall quarter, the Aquatics Division proudly continued to provide a wide range of instructional and competitive programs, recreational opportunities, fitness classes, and special events that kept our community active, engaged, and connected. While the quarter began at a slower pace due to the facility closure in the previous month, participation steadily rebounded as programs resumed and the Swim Stadium returned to full operation.

The Learn-to-Swim program, which operates from March through November, remained a cornerstone of our aquatic offerings. Enrollment stayed strong across group, private, and semi-private swim lessons with almost 700 registrations. Youth Group Swim Lessons (ages 6–17) continued to be the most popular with almost 300 registrations, while Parent & Child (ages 6 months-2 years), Tiny Tots (ages 3-5), and Adult (18+) lessons maintained consistent participation. Private and Semi-Private lessons remained in high demand, making up almost 40% of registrations. Additionally, Pre-Competitive Swim Class had almost 20 participants registered; this is the most advanced swim lesson we offer and the best feeder program for the swim teams!

Due to the unusually warm weather, pool usage showed positive trends as the quarter progressed. The Swim Stadium remained open seven days a week for recreational swim hours. Adult Swim, Lap Swim, and Family Swim sessions' attendance remained steady, with evening and weekend sessions experiencing increased participation. Membership activity continued at a healthy level, with over 2,500 active memberships. Families & Youth make up the majority of memberships, and we have almost 1,000 adults, seniors and disabled persons who use the pool year-round for aquatic therapy. Splash Fitness memberships also remained strong, supported by year-round aquatic fitness offerings such as Aqua Blast, Aqua Aerobics, SeniorCise, and Masters Swim.
Competitive aquatic programs also remained a highlight this quarter. The Patricia G.

Mitchell Swim Stadium proudly served as the training home for partner organization South Gate Aqua Coalition (SGAC), and user groups, Lynwood Marlins Swim Team, and Penguins Aquatic Club. These teams practiced multiple days per week and brought consistent energy and activity to the facility with approximately 200 competitive swimmers per practice. The Swim Stadium also hosted the South-Central Swim League's fall-winter season, welcoming multiple teams and hundreds of swimmers and spectators from surrounding communities over several meets. In partnership with SGAC, we also hosted three USA Swimming-sanctioned meets, including the prestigious Last-Ditch meet that brought over a thousand swimmers & spectators. These competitive swim events continue to showcase the facility as a premier aquatics destination while strengthening regional partnerships and community visibility.

Seasonal special events added to the excitement of the quarter. The return of Patti's Pumpkin Plunge provided families with a unique and festive fall experience featuring a floating pumpkin patch, arts and crafts, games, and valued community partnerships. The Surfing with Santa event once again brought holiday cheer to the Swim Stadium, offering families an afternoon filled with swimming, special activities, and memorable photo opportunities. Both events are made possible by our sponsors SGAC, Raising Cane's and Chick-Fil-A, and bring in over 100 families. They also continue to reinforce the Swim Stadium's role as a vibrant hub for year-round family-friendly programming.

Fitness

We saw a promising surge in membership numbers compared to the previous quarter. A total of 4,134 memberships were sold and renewed, reflecting a 19% decrease over the same period last year. Fitness memberships accounted for 66% of total memberships, demonstrating strong demand for our fitness programs, classes, and gym facilities.

In parallel, our daily admissions totaled 4,234 for the quarter. Of these, 69% were sport-related admissions, primarily for basketball gym usage, while fitness admissions accounted for the remaining 31%. Some contributing factors in the decline in admission are, JAA winter season that were held on Saturdays in the month of December and the closure of the Sports Center during the holidays.

Personal training services also showed a slight increase in hours logged. A total of 140 hours were recorded. The 12-session private package option remains the most popular choice. With the slower season, personal training sessions have declined compared to the same time as last year.

We introduced a new event; the Turkey Walk which was originally intended to be held at Urban Orchard Park but was relocated due to weather conditions. The event was well attended, with over 90 registered walkers. The event had raffles, a kid zone, DJ, and a sponsor fair. The next Turkey Walk will be held at Urban Orchard Park in November.

Moreover, our Biggest Loser weight loss program is undergoing another transformation from this time last year. The updated regimen will feature new exercise classes and more advanced training sessions, aiming to further engage participants and help them

achieve their fitness goals. Over 90% of participants are returners and dedicated to the program.

Youth Sports

All youth fundamental sport classes opened at full capacity and strong attendance was maintained throughout the fall session. Our core fundamental programs, basketball, volleyball, baseball, multi-sport, and soccer remained popular, offering introductory drills and skill-based lessons. During winter registration, there was a slight decline in enrollment, which is typical due to colder weather conditions.

Adult Sports

The second quarter of Adult Sports started strong with the return of Men's and Co-ed Softball leagues, welcoming a total of 38 teams across six divisions. This season, league champions were recognized with newly redesigned championship sweaters along with a team trophy.

Open volleyball continued to be highly popular on Tuesday evenings, attracting over 400 drop-in participants this quarter and creating strong demand for additional dates.

Recruitment for adult basketball and volleyball remains ongoing. Although efforts to launch a winter season were unsuccessful, we plan to relaunch and build momentum for these leagues in the spring.

Partner Organizations

South Gate Aztecs Football concluded its season in December prior to the holidays. Teams practiced throughout the week at South Gate Park, while the cheer program utilized the tennis courts for their practices.

SGJAA's fall baseball and softball seasons both began and concluded before the holidays, with increased participation resulting in youth use of the ball fields six days a week. Additionally, pre-season practices for their popular Winter Basketball League began in December, with the season officially starting in January.

AYSO registered 30 teams this past year, with practices and games initially held at Hollydale Regional Park before transitioning practices to South Gate Park. Field space was secured for AYSO twice a week as their season wrapped up in December.

We also continued our partnership with Special Olympics by hosting their Fall Games on November 8. Teams from across Los Angeles County competed in softball, soccer, and volleyball. The event welcomed hundreds of athletes and attracted over 1,000 spectators throughout the day.

Youth Programs

The Tot Time and Tiny Two programs were at full capacity and hosted a few noteworthy events during the Fall session. Classes took part in the "Great Shakeout" on October 19 at 10:17 a.m., during which participants practiced the safety procedure to "drop, cover, and hold." Classes also planned their own Halloween parties and had culminating celebrations to end their 9-week session.

The Lil Chefs classes were once again fully enrolled this session in both time slots for Tuesday's and Thursday's. Participants completed five weeks of learning basic kitchen fundamentals and prepared a variety of main dishes and dessert recipes, including themed dishes such as chicken pot pie skulls in October and personalized pumpkin charcuteries in November.

Special Events:

The Fall quarter is traditionally a busy season for Special Events, and this year followed that same pattern. We continued our partnership with Hollydale Elementary School for their Trunk or Treat event; this was the second year our team was invited. The collaboration proved to be very successful, allowing staff to connect and engage with residents from surrounding neighborhoods. The city contributed Halloween treat bags and helped decorate a city vehicle trunk to serve as a photo opportunity for attendees.

On October 31, our team hosted the annual Halloween Haunt at South Gate Park. This year's event featured a similar layout to last year, with the Show Mobile serving as the central stage. Activities on the main stage included a costume contest, interactive stage games, and a high-energy dance contest to close out the evening. Additional attractions included festive Halloween décor, Halloween arts & crafts keepsakes, photo booths, game booths, jumpers, trackless train rides, food trucks, a Dodger viewing area and our new "spooky village". The evening ended with a 15-minute firework show that lit up the evening sky as nearly 7,000 stood on our large quad with families and friends. Extensive promotion through marquees, billboards, brochures, and social media platforms helped ensure strong attendance.

The Veterans Day event took place November 8 and drew approximately 50 attendees. This year's guest speaker was retired Army Veteran Gil Carrillo who was honored with a proclamation in recognition of her service. Kiwanis Kids (Davy Ponce, & Claudia Rivas) and Kipp Corazon Builders Club (Judith Fuentes & Valentina Avilez) also participated by preparing and reading thank-you letters to veterans. Light refreshments were provided for all guests.

Santa's Breakfast took place December 13 and welcomed over 400 registered participants. The event featured a hot chocolate station, holiday-themed crafts, raffle prizes, and photos with Santa. New this year was a completely re-vamped breakfast menu that included: pancakes, hashbrowns, sausage, scrambled eggs, and fruit cups.

Seniors:

Our Senior Center continues to offer our core enriching activities designed to promote social connection, wellness, and enjoyment for our senior community. Core programming included Loteria, yoga, bingo, mental health workshops, arts and crafts, dance, and karaoke. Karaoke Thursdays continues to be our most popular activity day. We are also proud to feature performances by the Blue Jays Dance Group, which are always well received by participants. Through the HSA Lunch Program, our seniors continue to have access to daily healthy meals. In addition, throughout the month of October, HSA hosted weekly healthy recipe demonstrations to encourage nutritious eating and healthy living.

Seasonal social events were another highlight for our seniors. We hosted a festive Halloween social featuring raffles during lunchtime and distributed goodie bags to all attendees. Our Thanksgiving social focused on gratitude and included special thankful treats, while the Christmas social featured a “12 Days of Christmas” raffle, dancing, and festive goodies for the seniors to enjoy.

In October, we proudly hosted our first-ever Senior Ball, an elegant and memorable evening for our participants. The event included a catered dinner, a DJ who played seniors’ favorite music and took song requests, and a photo booth where attendees could take keepsake photos. The ball was held at the Girls Clubhouse, where seniors were warmly welcomed by staff and automatically entered a raffle upon arrival. The evening concluded with three raffle prize winners, and overall, the event was greatly enjoyed by seniors spending a special night with their partners and friends.

This fall, the Senior Center also planned eight exciting excursions, bringing new and enjoyable experiences to our community. Trip destinations included Irvine Park Railroad, Fantasy Casino, the Museum of Contemporary Art, Día de los Muertos in Old Town San Diego, Sycuan Casino, the LA Zoo’s “Animals Aglow,” Winter Fantasy, and Viejas Casino. These excursions sold out quickly, demonstrating strong interest and enthusiasm from participants. We look forward to the winter season and the continued success of our upcoming social events and programs.

Cultural Arts:

Our Cultural Arts kicked off fall with hosting their 5th Annual South Gate Art Walk which took over South Gate Park. This Art Walk featured five workshops led by partner organizations, two live DJs, three musical performances, one sound bath, and over 30 vendors/artisans. Unique to this years’ “Park Takeover”, the Art Walk was held both inside the Auditorium, utilizing both the Rose Garden and outdoor space. Our Art Club students were able to have their work displayed at the Art Walk with the playful petals being placed throughout the rose garden, a nice touch for all visitors who attended. Lastly, our Cultural Arts team also created 5 years in review “yearbook” that featured programming, events, and community building that has been established through this division. Copies were available to take home, and the team received great reviews from the community.

Our Introduction to Oil Painting group expressed interest in hosting their own group exhibition at the Museum and Art Gallery. Our Cultural Arts team met them with open arms and collaborated with them to create their exhibition. The class was able to display 28 art pieces for a month-long exhibition in the main gallery.

For our upcoming group art exhibition Dear Soul *Alma Querida*, we announced our open call via social media and have distributed mini posters to parks facilities and some local businesses. This open call is a love letter to your soul, inviting you to tap into any art medium and show us those exact things that get your soul moving. It can be the passions that ignite your creativity, callings that give you a sense of purpose, or strong feelings that move you to action. We want to peek into what, or who, shapes your soul.

Teen Programming

Teen Programming included several holiday events including pumpkin carving, Friendsgiving, and a Holiday Grinch themed escape room. Each event featured food, music, games, and raffles, creating a fun and festive atmosphere for participants. Providing programs for teens that foster friendships while teaching valuable life skills remains a key goal. The Teen Center received new supplies such as video games, chalk pastels, acrylic paints, and cooking equipment, which helped support programs including cooking activities, science projects, learning how to DJ, and introductions to creative art mediums. Additionally, teens had the opportunity to give back to the community by volunteering during Halloween and Turkey Walk events at Hollydale Community Park and South Gate Park.

Social Media

Our total followers are now up to 8,276. In the last quarter we had 30 posts and 200 stories. We have reached over 58,174 accounts and achieved a profile activity of 12,000. Our team advertised our holiday events and shared via stories and posts on Instagram and Facebook. Event content has increased as this will help create future marketing projects. Our Winter brochure was also a project that was revamped and reformatted from the previous edition, creating a fresh foundation for the new marketing/social media team. Our holiday media content helped us bring in an increase of audience members, within the City of South Gate and outside.

Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting
February 12, 2026

STAFF REPORT ITEM No. 3

To: **Honorable Parks & Recreation Commission**
From: **Glenn Massey, Parks Superintendent**
Date: **January 21, 2026**
Subject: **Review of Grounds & Facility Maintenance 2nd Quarter FY 2025/26**

Recommended Motion: Motion to receive and file.

Report Summary:

Grounds Maintenance Activities

- This second quarter the berms have been removed on baseball diamonds number 5, 6, 7 and 8. (A berm is a level space, shelf, or raised barrier).
- We maintained 10 baseball fields – prepared, dragged, packed, and watered 5 days per week.
- We aerated and reseeded the turf and mulched the native gardens at South Gate Park.
- The irrigation along the playgrounds in South Gate Park were readjusted to prolong the longevity of the rubberized surface.
- The Golf Course Greens were fertilized, and the sunken valve boxes were raised to prevent trip and fall hazards.
- Staff has pressure-washed picnic tables, benches, playground areas, handball courts, small quad, bandstand, outside restrooms, Golf Course, Senior Center, City Hall and other areas as needed.
- Grounds staff have trapped over 125 gophers at South Gate Park this quarter.
- Over 150 sprinklers, five 2-inch water valves and four 3-inch water valves, have been replaced throughout Hollydale and South Gate Park this quarter.
- We continue servicing and beautifying over 190 acres of parkland daily.

Park Facility Maintenance

- Parks Facility Maintenance staff set up and hosted a variety of events this second quarter; the Halloween event at South Gate Park, Rotary Thanksgiving dinner, Winter Wonderland event, Breakfast with Santa, Christmas Parade, and ongoing Red Cross Blood Drives, just to mention a few.
- Detailed maintenance of floors, walls, bright work, and windows was performed in all Parks buildings.
- Due to the high use of SG Park, Staff continues to do a third daily inspection and

cleaning in the late afternoon to our outdoor restrooms. We have continued the use of Electrostatic Disinfecting Equipment for more coverage in our cleaning and disinfecting efforts for both indoor and outdoor restroom facilities, along with a pressure washing program. These disinfecting and cleaning tools will be used consistently. Set-ups for all events require us to disinfect all tables, chairs, door handles, and A/V equipment.

- We are in full operation with classes, as well as private rentals, picnics, sports activities, and service clubs' events. We continue to host monthly food giveaways for the community at Hollydale Regional Park.
- The Community Service Worker program is ongoing; we are still limiting the intake to 15 people maximum per day. We continue addressing the ongoing challenges with restroom cleanliness with a routine restroom disinfecting program. This includes the use of the C3 Machine to apply disinfectants and cleaners. Once the product is sprayed, staff scrubs floors, walls, and fixtures to ensure sanitary conditions.