

CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS

3191 Katella Ave.
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

AGENDA PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING Wednesday, July 1, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.

This Agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. Except as provided by law, action or discussion shall not be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda. Supporting documents, including staff reports, are available for review at the Recreation & Community Services Department or on the City's website at www.cityoflosalamitos.org once the agenda has been publicly posted.

Any written materials relating to an item on this agenda submitted to the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the Recreation & Community Services Department, 10911 Oak St., Los Alamitos CA 90720, during normal business hours. In addition, such writings or documents will be made available for public review at the respective public meeting.

It is the intention of the City of Los Alamitos to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee, or a participant at this meeting, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, please contact the Recreation & Community Services Department at (562) 430-1073, extension 540, 48 hours prior to the meeting so that reasonable arrangements may be made. Assisted listening devices may be obtained from the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission Secretary at the meeting for individuals with hearing impairments.

Persons wishing to address the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission on any item on the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission Agenda should complete a yellow "Request to Speak" card and will be called upon at the time the agenda item is called or during the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission's consideration of the item and may address the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission for up to three minutes.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
 - Commissioner Bell
 - Commissioner Carvajal
 - Commissioner Decker
 - Commissioner Jempsa
 - Vice Chair Wilson
 - Chair Jorge
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
4. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

At this time, any individual in the audience may come forward to speak on any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission (PR&CA). Please state if you wish to speak on an item on the Agenda. Remarks are to be limited to not more than five minutes.

5. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes for the regular meeting of June 3, 2015.

6. STAFF REPORTS

A. 28th Annual 4th of July Fireworks Spectacular

This report provides the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission with pertinent information regarding the upcoming 28th Annual 4th of July Fireworks Spectacular scheduled for Saturday, July 4, 2015.

Recommendation: Commission receive and file.

B. Pool Lease Renewal Update

The City of Los Alamitos staff and City Council have met with and discussed on several occasions a new pool lease agreement. The discussions have taken several forms and led to various alternatives with the future status of the pool still unknown.

Recommendation: Commission receive and file.

7. ITEMS FROM THE RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

At this time, Commissioners may report on items not specifically described on the Agenda that are of interest to the community, provided no action or discussion is taken except to provide staff direction to report back or to place the item on a future Agenda.

9. ADJOURNMENT

I hereby certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing Agenda was posted at the Community Center, Museum and City Hall not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting. Dated this 25th day of June 2015.


Trini Zenovka, Department Secretary

**MINUTES OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS**

REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, June 3, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission met in a Regular Session at 7:07 p.m., Wednesday, June 3, 2015, in the Council Chambers, 3191 Katella Ave., Chair Manning presiding.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commission Members: Bell, Decker, Jorge, Manning, Wilson

Absent: Commission Members: Carvajal, Jempsa

Present: Staff: Corey Lakin, Recreation & Community Svcs. Dir.
Ron Noda, Recreation Manager
Tony Brandyberry, Pub. Svcs. Superintendent
Darlene Pawling, Department Secretary

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Manning led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Manning opened Oral Communications. There being no one present wishing to speak, Chair Manning closed Oral Communications.

5. MINUTES

Motion/Second: Wilson/Jorge

Abstain: None

Unanimously Carried: The Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commission approved the minutes of the regular meeting of May 6, 2015 with the correction of Item 7, 3rd paragraph.

6. STAFF REPORTS

A. Water Conservation Follow up

Staff provided the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission the opportunity to continue discussing the effects of California's drought on the City of Los Alamitos. Tony Brandyberry, Public Works Superintendent informed the Commission that the California drought has not improved. Golden State Water Company (GSW) has informed the City of Los Alamitos to reduce water usage by 16%. The City Council is expected to vote on the level of enforcement of ordinance 95-05 at the June City Council meeting and this will determine what stage of water restriction the city will enforce. Staff is working with the GSW to minimize the effects on the City owned

and maintained parks and fields, while ensuring water consumption is reduced by at least 16% while not affecting the sport turf fields.

Motion/Second: Wilson/Jorge

Unanimously Carried: The Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts, in the interest of public safety, approved to recommend to Council for Public Works to engage with Golden State Water to acquire various options to water greater than two (2) days per week, while also maintaining water reduction use by at least 16%.

B. Recreation and Community Services Department 2015 Summer Preview

Staff provided the PR&CA a preview of the Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Department's 2015 summer programs, classes (including swim lessons), camps, and events. With summer approaching, the department experiences an increase in staffing levels, including volunteers, and revenue generated as a majority of these programs, events, camps, and classes occur throughout this season. Staff added that Friday Night Lights Flag Football is this year's Music and Movies sponsor, offsetting the cost of the four (4) movies. Staff invited the Commissioners to participate by being the emcee at each of the movies events.

7. ITEMS FROM THE RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Staff took a moment to recognize and thank Commissioner Manning for his support of the City and staff, and his contribution to the Commission, including his youthful perspective of ideas.

Staff took a moment to recognize Darlene Pawling, Department Secretary for her service to the Commission and the Recreation Department, as she is retiring after 15 years of service.

Staff informed the Commission that there is no license agreement for the 4th of July yet, however negotiations are still taking place.

Staff informed the Commission that there will be an item discussion at the June 15th City Council meeting regarding the JFTB pool negotiations for the Council to discuss several options.

Staff informed the Commission that Friday, June 5th is the Recreation Department In-Service that includes 65-70 summer staff participating. The Recreation Department has recently hired approximately fourteen (14) new Recreation staff and approximately ten (10) new Aquatic staff.

Staff informed the Commission that over Memorial Day weekend the Oak Field lights were vandalized and underground wires were stolen. An electrician worked for two days to resolve the situation.

8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Decker gave her well wishes to Commissioner Manning and Darlene Pawling, Department Secretary. She will attend the June 27th Music & Movies.

Commissioner Decker informed staff that a gentleman has inquired on the nextdoor.com if anyone knows about the scope of work for the fence and such at Labourdette Park. Staff will check with Tony Brandyberry about the status in order for Commissioner Decker to reply to the gentleman through nextdoor.com.

Commissioner Bell expressed his well wishes to Commissioner Manning and Darlene Pawling, Department Secretary.

Commissioner Wilson commented that he and his son have been enjoying some of the park sites in Los Alamitos.

Commissioner Jorge expressed his gratefulness to Darlene Pawling for her professionalism and for Commissioner Manning's years of service, tenure, and wisdom.

Commissioner Manning gave a brief history of his term as Commissioner stating he began in summer 2009 after his high school graduation and feels he has matured and grown in his knowledge. He thanked the Commission and staff for their support and service to the community.

9. PR&CA COMMISSION REORGANIZATION

A. Nominate New Chairperson

Motion/Second: Wilson/Bell

Unanimously Carried: The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission approved the nomination of Commissioner Emil Jorge as the new Chairperson.

B. Nominate New Vice-Chairperson

Motion/Second: Decker/Bell

Unanimously Carried: The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission approved the nomination of Commissioner Josh Wilson as the New Vice-Chairperson.

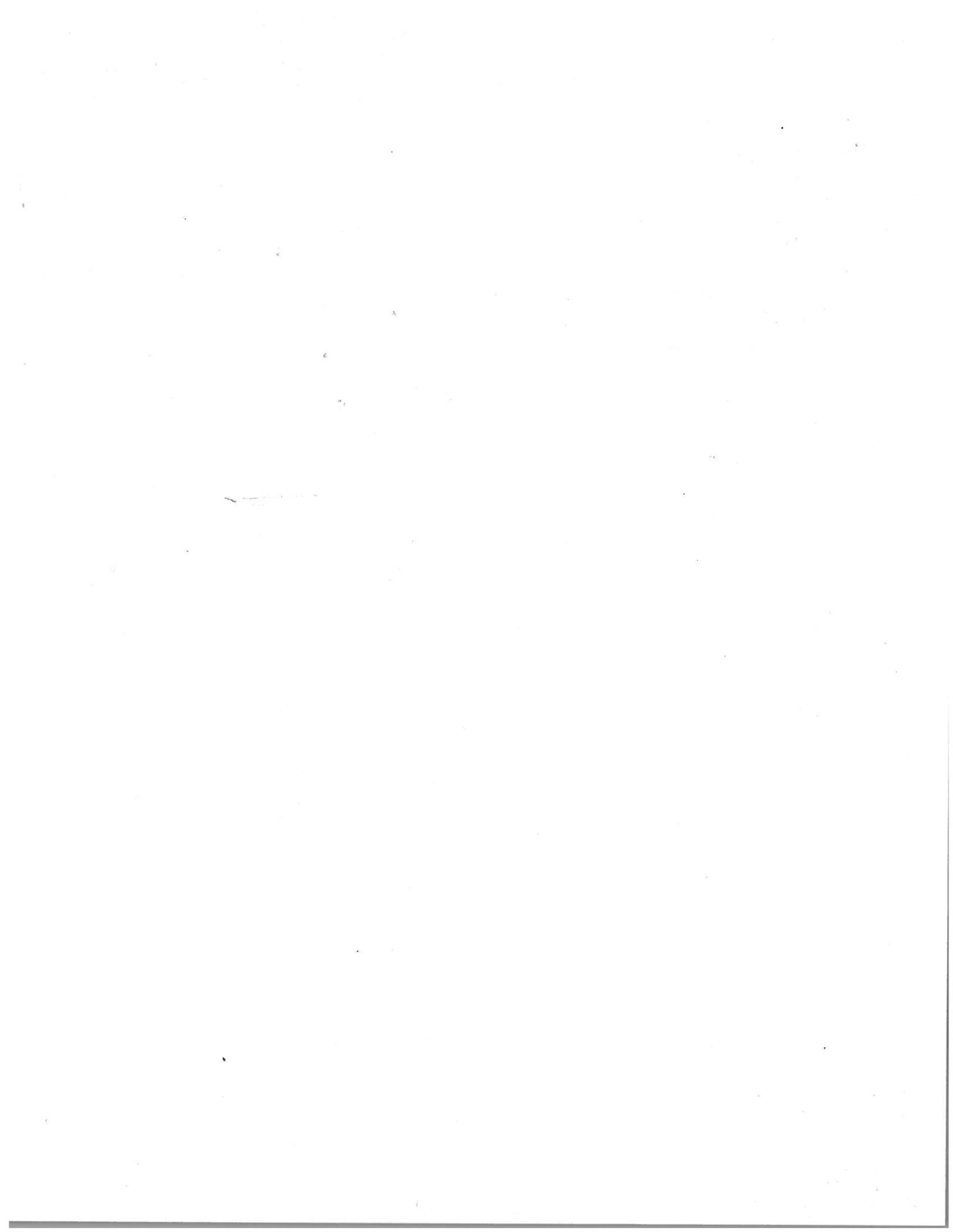
9. ADJOURNMENT

The Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commission adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Emil Jorge, Chair

Attest:

Corey Lakin, Director
Recreation & Community Services Department



City of Los Alamitos

Agenda Report Staff Report

July 1, 2015
Item No: 6A

To: Emil Jorge, Chairperson & Members of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission

Via: Corey Lakin, Director of Recreation & Community Services

From: Ron Noda, Recreation Manager

Subject: 28th Annual 4th of July Fireworks Spectacular

Summary: This report provides the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Commission with pertinent information regarding the upcoming 28th Annual 4th of July Fireworks Spectacular scheduled for Saturday, July 4, 2015.

Recommendation: Commission receive and file.

Background:

The annual 4th of July Fireworks Spectacular will be held at the Joint Forces Training Base, marking its 28th year that over 15,000 people attend the event. It is co-sponsored by the cities of Los Alamitos, Cypress, Seal Beach, and the Rossmoor Community Services District.

The free event includes a Family Fun Zone with inflatable jumpers, mechanical rides, and game booths provided by Los Alamitos-based Elite Special Events. The main stage will allow the military to showcase their musical talents by welcoming the 40th Infantry Division Bands, which will once again be held on the tarmac.

Discussion:

One of the goals of the event is to make it revenue-expenditure neutral. Staff looked at various ways to accomplish this goal.

- A \$5 parking fee for vehicles will continue this year. Approximately \$9,000 (1800 vehicles) is estimated to help offset the expenditure costs.

- There are currently 19 food vendors and 14 display vendors that were recruited to provide food, beverages, snack items, and general items to be purchased to the public as well as provide another source of revenue. So far, more than \$13,000 was raised through this effort compared to the \$9,200 in 2014.
- The money collected from sales of tickets for the inflatables and mechanical rides in 2014 was \$2,014 and this year, staff is hoping for similar results.
- Contributions from surrounding agencies assist with the direct-cost expenditures of the event. The City of Seal Beach is budgeting \$8,000 while the Community of Rossmoor is budgeting \$6,200. The City of Cypress splits the rest of the costs with the City of Los Alamitos.
- Sponsorships continue to be sought by staff for the 4th of July Fireworks Spectacular. As a part of the Public Outreach and Education portion of the contract for the provision of Solid Waste Services, Republic Services has the opportunity to utilize some funding to sponsor the event and provide educational materials and information to the public. They have committed a \$15,000 sponsorship (Premier Community Partner) to the event for the 5th consecutive year. Other sponsors include:
 - ◆ Shining Star Sponsorship
 - Los Alamitos Medical Center - \$2,500
 - Sea Air Federal Credit Union - \$2,500
 - CARE Ambulance - \$2,500
 - ◆ Rising Star Sponsorship
 - Southern California Edison - \$1,000
 - Charles Abbot Associates - \$1,000
 - Navy Federal Credit Union - \$1,000
 - Cottonwood Church - \$1,000
 - ◆ The Shops at Rossmoor - \$500
 - ◆ OC Breeze - In-Kind Donation
 - ◆ News Enterprise - In-Kind Donation

The event will again take place on the tarmac of the Los Alamitos Army Airfield due to a number of reasons:

- Regulations require approximately 80'-100' per inch diameter of shell of firework from any structure (i.e. 4" shell = 320'-400'). The previous location near the front entrance to the installation has structures that are 200', 300', and 400' from where the fireworks were launched and houses that are less than 500' from the epicenter. Therefore, only 3" shells and smaller would be allowed to be used. This year we are using 3", 4", 5", 6" & 8" shells, due to the Los Alamitos City Council approving an additional \$12,000 for larger shells.

- There are several buildings and parking lots that have been constructed on the Base that took away former seating areas. Additionally, the line of sight is gone due to these new buildings for those who find grass in areas not adjacent to the Showmobile. The tarmac allows for all attendees to sit near the Showmobile and have a clear line-of-sight to the fireworks display.
- There was limited access to those in wheelchairs and others who had difficulty walking or maneuvering through the uneven terrain near the fireworks display area. The tarmac is adjacent to parking and all concrete, alleviating the unsafe grounds due to gopher holes and weed-infested dirt. Additionally, handicapped parking is located within a couple hundred feet of the Showmobile instead of half a mile from the festivities.
- New this year, the launch area of the fireworks has been moved northeast onto the East Ramp, towards the neighborhood of Carrier Row to have a clearer line of sight.

This year, the City of Los Alamitos as entered into a License Agreement for use of the military installation that is different from years past. In past years, the JFTB was a partner to the event and provided fire support, staffing and static displays. The agreement this year calls for the City to pay a fee for renting the various areas on the base that are used for the event. Staff has minimized use of the installation as much as possible for a fee of \$4,860. The JFTB will no longer provide fire support, so the City is contracting with OCFA to have Paramedics onsite throughout the event. The License Agreement was provided to the cities on June 16th and finalized on June 19th.

City Council, Commission members, and the community are invited to the JFTB installation to celebrate the 4th of July. The event begins at 4:00pm with live music, games and food and concludes with a 22-minute long fireworks show beginning promptly at 9:00 pm. The general public's entrance onto the Joint Forces Training Base will be on Lexington Drive. Those with a preferred parking pass will be able to enter the installation on Orangewood Avenue. This year, the City has a contractor who will be seeking residency statistics from persons entering the Base for the 4th of July to provide information about the number of people who attend the event and where they live.

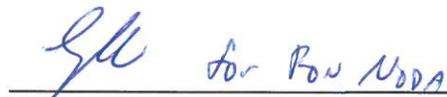
Below is the timeline of the event:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| • 4:00pm | Event officially begins |
| • 4:00-7:45pm | Main Stage Performances |
| • 7:45pm | Dignitary Speeches |
| • 8:00-9:00pm | Main Stage Performances |
| • 9:00pm | Fireworks Show begins |
| • 9:30pm | Event Concludes, vehicles will exit out of Orangewood Ave. and Lexington Dr. (once pedestrians are clear) |

Fiscal Impact:

Staff is working with the City of Cypress to reduce expenditures and increase revenue for the 2015 4th of July Spectacular. Expenditures are expected to be approximately \$35,000 for each of the two cities. The sponsorship from Republic Service, the vehicle parking fee, the funds from the Family Fun Zone, and the sponsorships, will assist the event to be revenue-direct expenditure offset. However, with increased costs due to the License Agreement and the need for the City to pay for additional services, staff is estimating this year's event will fall a little short in revenue. Based upon staff time, the fun zone and the ability to setup and cleanup in a timely manner, there is a small possibility that the event will remain revenue-direct expenditure offset. If necessary, the carry-over funds from past year's 4th of July surplus' can be used to help offset the costs. The funding for the 4th of July is in the Recreation and Community Services Department Special Events Division.

Submitted By:



Ron Noda
Recreation Manager

Approved By:



Corey Lakin
Recreation & Community Services Director

City of Los Alamitos

Agenda Report Staff Report

July 1, 2015
Item No: 6B

To: Emil Jorge, Chairperson & Members of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission

From: Corey Lakin, Recreation & Community Services Director

Subject: Pool Lease Renewal Update

Summary: The City of Los Alamitos staff and City Council have met with and discussed on several occasions a new pool lease agreement. The discussions have taken several forms and led to various alternatives with the future status of the pool still unknown.

Recommendations: Receive, discuss and file.

Background

In 1995 the Los Alamitos Armed Forces Reserve Center (renamed the Joint Forces Training Base) pool was identified by then United States Water Polo (USAWP) President Rich Foster as a possible location for a USA Water Polo National Training Center. The pool had been unused since 1991, when the DOD (Department of Defense) turned down a request from the Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB) to refurbish the pool. Preliminary discussions with the JFTB suggested that if USAWP could rehabilitate and repair the pool, the military would provide access to USAWP for a national team training center. In early 1996 a Sublicense Agreement between the Military Department of the State of California and the United States Water Polo Federation (USAWP) was provided for a twenty (20) year term. The Sublicense Agreement specified the user groups of the pool as USAWP, soldiers and their families, other water sports federation teams affiliated with the USAWP and the families of the cities of Los Alamitos, Cypress, and the community of Rossmore. In November of 1996, the heaters failed due to insufficient pressure in the gas line. Due to funding shortfalls, USAWP was unable to make the necessary repairs to the facility and the pool became unusable to everyone and closed.

In February 1998, the Mayor met with representatives from USAWP, the California National Guard, the County of Orange, the City of Cypress, Los Alamitos Unified School District, Shore Aquatics, and the private spa and pool industry to gauge support for restoring the 50 meter pool to full operational use. This consortium worked together to develop a plan for the completion of the needed improvements, as well as identifying

ongoing operational costs and possible program revenue. With a master plan for improvements in place, and a proposed project budget, an intensive search for funding was initiated. After months of lobbying, fundraising and discussions, in October 1998, the City signed a "Modification to Sublicense". The three parties on the modification included the JFTB, USA Water Polo Federation and the City of Los Alamitos. The agreement placed responsibility on the City to assume all rights and responsibilities for the renovation, maintenance and operation of the pool for the benefit of current and potential users. The City assumed these responsibilities in order to act as the primary scheduler and therefore guarantee that its existing and future programming needs could be met.

Over the next four years, several projects were initiated through funding by the City, the Aquatics Foundation, the State Legislature, County partners, and other organizations to renovate and modernize the pool for use by the public. Although the City has carried primary financial responsibility for the pool, the facility has been a combined effort from the beginning. The JFTB, in its desire to partner with the City and USA Water Polo, opened its gates to the surrounding community. The result for the residents of Los Alamitos and surrounding communities and the men and women of the Armed Forces has been the availability of a local 50-meter aquatic facility.

Discussion

Initial Proposal for New Lease

With the approaching end of the current Memorandum of Understanding and Sublicense for use of the pool at the Joint Forces Training Base, Staff reached out to the Joint Forces Training Base staff to discuss the possibility of entering into a new long-term agreement for use of the pool. The first meeting demonstrated interest by both entities to continue the relationship and opportunity to continue working together. At the second meeting, the JFTB staff provided City staff with a preliminary Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for use of the pool. Staff's initial reaction was shock due to the JFTB asking for a significant increase in costs associated with leasing the pool including paying rent for the facility, overhead charges and environmental charges. These fees would more than double what the City is currently paying for reimbursing the utility costs. The JFTB took that opportunity to review the agreement again and came back to the City at a third meeting with a slightly revised version, however, the costs had not significantly changed.

Under the current agreement, the City of Los Alamitos is required to reimburse the JFTB for the utilities associated with use of the pool. Several years ago, the JFTB sub-metered the electrical for the pool in order to gain a more accurate reflection of the pool's electrical use. The utility costs at the pool have fluctuated significantly since FY 05-06 (Attachment #1). The City used to pay \$88,000 over the first several years of the lease agreement. In FY 06-07, the JFTB approached the City and informed them that they were subsidizing the City's utilities all along and could no longer do that. Therefore,

in FY 07-08, the JFTB invoiced the City for the full amount \$155,000. After several years of the City asking to be removed from the Fuel Cell that was installed by the JFTB in order to provide hot water (the byproduct of the electricity producing Fuel Cell) to the pool. Once the Fuel Cell was removed, the utility costs dropped significantly, with the lowest utility usage coming in FY 12-13 at \$103,000. Since then, utility costs have yet again risen over the last two years for unknown reasons. Staff is perplexed by the \$50,000 swing over the years due to the fact that no changes to the facility or operations have changed.

Under a newly proposed agreement drafted by the Joint Force Training Base, they are not only seeking reimbursement for utilities, but other “reimbursable” costs including:

- Army Corp of Engineers License Fees (one time) \$2,500
- Resource Management \$15,949
- Facility Operations N/A
- Environmental Compliance \$11,962
- Fire & Emergency Services (two fire extinguishers) \$38
 - Any medical supplies used by JFTB Fire/Emergency Services during a call for service would be an extra charge
- Security Services N/A
- Communication Services N/A
- Sustainment Costs (Maintenance and Repairs) \$5,000
 - Reimbursement of work orders JFTB staff complete (estimate)
- Refuse Collection & Disposal N/A
 - No Charge as long as City’s refuse contract covers City facilities including the pool
- Lease of Land and/or Space \$97,389
- Military Department Administrative Costs (16.2%) \$35,000

NEW CHARGES (Year 1) \$167,838

All of the expenses above are subject to annual CPI adjustments (currently estimated to increase by 1.8% annually).

In order to help expedite a resolution of a new Memorandum of Agreement, the City sent a letter to the Adjutant General, Major General Baldwin, seeking assistance to work with the City to find a resolution that would allow the City and users to afford to continue using the JFTB pool without making an exponentially higher payment. However, if a new agreement could not be put in place before June 30, 2015, an extension of the current agreement with the current terms through December 31, 2016 was recommended, in order to allow USA Women’s Water Polo proper time to prepare for the 2016 Olympic Games and the City and other User Groups to prepare for departure. It would take time to notify the thousands of participants of the disbanding of the City’s aquatic activities and allow groups to find alternative locations for their aquatic programs.

Since the pool is more than 70 years old, it is in need of modernization and repairs. Additionally, the building is dilapidated and too small for the amount of people who use the facility. Several repairs that are necessary in the next few years include:

- Repainting the pool \$70,000
- Replace in-pool lights \$50,000
- Repair Dive Blocks \$15,000
- Replace Skimmer Drains \$10,000
- Replace/Refinish Deck \$50,000

Other wish list repairs for the future would include:

- Plaster & Tile Pool \$300,000
- Re-plumb piping in pump room \$25,000
- Install Variable Frequency Drive \$15,000
- Concrete grass area behind bleachers \$20,000
- Replace restroom stalls and locker facilities \$50,000
- Replace pool roof \$150,000
- Place permanent cover over grandstands \$75,000

While these numbers are just estimates, it demonstrates a need to invest hundreds of thousands of dollars into the facility over several years to upgrade and modernize the complex. However, with an annual cost increase of nearly \$200,000 per year, not only will these improvements not have a chance to be completed, it will be a challenge to afford the annual costs. In order to cover this 130% increase in annual costs, pool use rates, costs for swimming lessons and lap swimming would need to increase exponentially, likely pricing the pool out of business.

At the March 23rd Special Meeting of the Los Alamitos City Council, several representatives from the Joint Forces Training Base and National Guard were invited to discuss this proposed lease agreement. During the meeting, the City Council expressed their concerns about the proposed lease agreement and the detrimental effects of increasing the costs of the lease so drastically. Representatives from the JFTB and National Guard listened to the City's concerns and expressed a desire to re-look at the proposed agreement, in light of pending management changes at the JFTB. They asked the City Council to be patient as they take the proposal back for another look and report their findings in late May or early June.

Pool Lease Out to Bid

City staff continued to seek a meeting with representatives from the Joint Forces Training Base to discuss any proposed changes to the new lease agreement for use of the pool. JFTB representatives continued to inform staff that they were still discussing the changes and would get back to staff as soon as they had made some decisions. On Tuesday, June 2nd, Mayor Murphy met with Brigadier General (BG) Reddicks to discuss

another matter at the JFTB and BG Reddicks informed the Mayor that the JFTB was going to bid out operations of the pool. Staff and the Mayor received confirmation of this message via an email from BG Reddicks on Wednesday, June 5th stating that the JFTB was “in the process of submitting a Report of Availability (ROA) for the Pool, which is one of the first steps in opening the bid seeking process. With the current contract expected to close-out March 2016; [the JFTB is] hoping to complete the bid process this year.” The City Manager followed up with an emailed response to BG Reddicks inviting him to the June 15th City Council meeting to discuss the matter further and a meeting to receive additional details regarding the process prior to the meeting.

With the approaching end of the current Memorandum of Understanding and Sublicense for use of the pool at the Joint Forces Training Base on February 29, 2016, several Pool User Groups and aquatics participants have expressed concern about the elimination of public use of a pool in Los Alamitos. Approximately 250,000 visits are captured at the USA Water Polo National Training Center including Los Alamitos residents and other local residents who work diligently to ensure their children are water safe. Additionally, low-impact exercise and fitness is offered to all ages through recreational swimming, lap swimming and other aquatics activities. Hundreds of kids and adults are afforded the opportunity to swim and play water polo as a part of a team through the several User Groups who utilize the pool on a daily basis. By not renewing a fiscally prudent lease agreement with the City, all of these water safety and healthy lifestyle programs are in jeopardy of ending. Pool space, especially public pool space, is extremely limited and the potential loss of use of a 50-meter public pool would be detrimental to local residents.

Staff has been approached by several entities asking how they can assist by speaking with elected and appointed officials throughout the County, State and Country as well as other leaders including the Adjutant General, Major General Baldwin, to help encourage the Joint Forces Training Base, the California National Guard and the Army Corps of Engineers to renew an affordable lease agreement with the City. These organizations want the City to continue teaching kids how to swim and for the local User Groups to continue to use the pool for their constituents, but no one can afford to pay much more in pool rent and program costs that would be required with the originally proposed increase in the lease agreement. Now, with the possibility of pool operations going out to bid, it is a possibility that a private organization would take over operations of the JFTB pool and increase costs for use of the facility. Typically, 50-meter pools operate at a significant loss to the operators. The high costs of staffing, utilities and maintenance prohibit the facility from “making money”. The fact that the City has been able to operate the pool at a near net-zero cost for direct costs, is virtually unheard of and has allowed the pool to continue operation for the last several years. In order for a private entity to recoup their investment, the cost for swimming lessons would increase significantly and pool rent for non-profit organizations would likely price them out of business.

Next Steps

At the June 15 City Council meeting, the Council Members discussed several courses of action in light of the newest conversation on pool operations being placed out to bid. After much discussion, since the City is not being afforded the opportunity renew the lease agreement, the City Council elected to :

- Work with the Pool User Groups to contact elected and appointed officials from the County, State and Country who serve Los Alamitos and the surrounding jurisdictions to gain support for the City to retain a favorable lease agreement for continued use of the JFTB pool
- Research alternative locations for aquatic activities and develop a plan to vacate the JFTB pool on February 29, 2016
- Discuss additional alternatives to seeking a new pool lease agreement for use of the JFTB pool and/or an exit strategy while trying to continue offering water safe programming.

Additionally, the Council agreed to take a look at the bid/bidding process once it is disclosed and decide whether it is worthwhile to bid on pool operations or not.

Over the last couple of weeks, additional meetings, phone calls and discussions have taken place between City Council Members, JFTB personnel, Congressional representatives, staff, representatives from the Governor's Office, and others in response to the City Council's actions and publicity of their actions. While there is no new reportable action, there are glimmers of hope that the City may have the opportunity to remain involved with the pool in the future, but at this time, what type of involvement remains unknown.

Fiscal Impact

The Recreation and Community Services Department Fiscal Year 15-16 Aquatics Division expenditure budget is estimated at \$356,000 and revenue budget is projected at \$354,000. The payments to the Joint Forces Training Base (utilities) for the pool account for 39.7% of the expenditure budget or \$134,000.

Under the terms of the first proposed draft lease agreement proposed by the JFTB, lease expenses would increase by \$168,000 annually, bringing the payments to the Joint Forces Training Base to \$302,000 annually or nearly 60% of the projected \$505,000 Aquatics expenditure budget. All expenditures and revenues are budgeted out of the General Fund.

Under the newly proposed bid process, it is unknown what the financial commitment would be for operations and capital investments, as the scope is unknown at this time.

Once the scope is introduced, staff can review the proposal at that time and determine what the cost estimates would be to continue operations of the pool.

Submitted & Approved By:



Corey Lakin
Recreation & Community Services Director

