



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT**

**AGENDA DATE:** March 23, 2022  
**TO:** Parks and Recreation Commission  
**FROM:** Administration Division, Parks and Recreation Department  
**SUBJECT:** Director's Report

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Commission receive a presentation on the status of various Parks and Recreation Department (Department) initiatives and activities.

**DISCUSSION:**

Arroyo Burro Open Space

Approximately 150 community members came together on March 3 to celebrate the completion of the Las Positas and Modoc Roads Multiuse Path and Phase II of the Arroyo Burro Open Space Restoration Project. The restoration project, encompassing 21 acres in the lower Arroyo Burro watershed, involved planting over 10,000 native plants (including over 900 trees); restoration of the tributary coming down from Campanil Hill; re-creating floodplains to reduce flooding and limit creek bank erosion; relocating a drinking water line up out of the floodway to protect it during large storms; and improving trails and adding a pedestrian bridge over Arroyo Burro to make the Open Space park more accessible for City residents and visitors. On March 8 and 9, 60 students from Laguna Blanca School joined staff to tour the restoration site and to assist with invasive plant removal efforts. The City also hosted a community planting day at the site on March 12.

Summer Camp Registration

Summer camp registration begins in early April for summer 2022. This year's camp lineup is currently available to view online at [sbparksandrec.org](http://sbparksandrec.org). The Department will offer a wide range of camps at locations throughout the City, including full- and part-day offerings and counselor-in-training programs. There are several important registration dates: Junior Lifeguards camp registration opens on Tuesday, April 5; general registration begins on Wednesday, April 6; and Summer Fun registration opens on Monday, April 25. The Recreation Division is also now hiring for summer camp positions. Job postings are viewable on the City's Human Resources website.

### Municipal Golf Course Improvements

A long anticipated project to renovate eleven green side bunkers at the Municipal Golf Course began on March 7. Billy Bunker style liners will be installed in the green side bunkers at holes #1, #4, #6 #11, #7 and #14. When finished, there will be a 2-inch lip around the bunker perimeters and 6-7 inches of sand on top of the liner. The new greenside bunkers will improve drainage, reduce the need for long-term maintenance, and enhance the aesthetic beauty of the golf course. Additionally, the new bunkers will accentuate the holes and provide clear targets for directing golfers to a defined landing area, whether it is the fairway or green, while at the same time enhancing course safety. The results of the bunker renovations will be improved playability of the golf course and a better golf experience overall.

A priority project of the Golf Advisory Committee, funding for the new bunkers was provided through CourseCo, the golf course management contractor, and greens fees set aside in the Players Improvement Fund.

### Yanonali Community Garden at Eastside Neighborhood Park

On Wednesday, March 2, at 5:30 p.m. the Department hosted the first of two community meetings at the Franklin Neighborhood Center to discuss the Phase I park renovation improvements and the renovation objectives for the Yanonali Community Garden, including improving safety and accessibility, maximizing space, taking better advantage of sunlight, modernizing garden spaces, and improving walking paths, water access, and storage. During this meeting, the Department shared a new concept plan for the park that relocates the fence line to retain all 82 10' x 20' plots and notified gardeners that were going to lose their plots that they do not need to vacate this spring as previously communicated. The Department hosted a second meeting on Saturday, March 5, at 11:00 am in the Yanonali Garden for gardeners who were unable to attend the prior meeting. A total of 29 unduplicated gardeners attended the two meetings. Staff received support for re-engaging with garden stakeholders, and gardeners provided input surrounding the proposed fence line in the new conceptual plan and discussed potential garden improvements.

Prior to advancing the Phase 1 park renovation, the Department plans to conduct a survey of gardeners to identify key elements and infrastructure improvements, develop a set of concept plans, and re-engage with the gardeners to reach consensus on future garden improvements.

**APPROVED BY:** Jill E. Zachary, Parks and Recreation Director