



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

**AGENDA DATE:** July 27, 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:**

Concerts in the Park

The much-anticipated Concerts in the Park opened its 21<sup>st</sup> season after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. The free concerts take place every Thursday in July from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the Chase Palm Park Great Meadow. The series kicked-off on Thursday, July 7 with The Molly Ringwald Project, a high-energy 80's tribute band made up of local performers and new to the series. The Blue Breeze Band performed on July 14, Captain Cardiac and the Coronaries performed on July 21, and the Pepe Marquez Band will close out the series on July 28. The concerts are very popular, providing a place for friends and families to picnic and dance to a live band in the city's beautiful waterfront.

Children's Fiesta Parade

After a two-year hiatus, the 90<sup>th</sup> Children's Fiesta Parade will take place along Cabrillo Boulevard on Saturday, August 6. The parade starts at 10 a.m. at Garden Street and ends near Milpas Street. The Children's Parade is a Fiesta favorite, and new families will join those who are 10<sup>th</sup> or more generation participants. This year, there are over 75 entries featuring colorful Spanish and Mexican costumes and music, as well as some chickens, goats, ponies and dogs.

New Citywide Website

On June 28, the City launched a new website. Staff developed the site to provide a better experience for those in the disability community, to have Spanish translation capability, better mobile capability, and to offer ease of navigation. Of particular note on the Parks

and Recreation sub site is a new searchable database of all facilities, parks, and open spaces. Parks and Recreation staff designed the new database to make it easy for community members and visitors to navigate their way to a great venue to rent, playground to visit, or trail to hike, to name a few possibilities. While the website has launched and is a comprehensive resource for users, it will continue to be refined and expanded over the course of the calendar year.

### East Beach Improvements

The popular East Beach Picnic Area received much needed improvements in June. Improvements include new gopher-proof crushed rock pads installed for the existing group picnic sites, picnic tables repainted and secured to the ground, and two new pads created for bike racks (accommodating 20 bikes total). Staff received numerous requests for more bike parking in the area over the past year, as it is heavily used by volleyball players, summer campers, and beach goers, so these improvements were well received.

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