

DEPARTMENT SUMMARY
PARKS, RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Mission Statement

The mission of the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department is to enhance the quality of life by providing safe, well-maintained parks and public places; preserving open space and historic resources; caring for people; strengthening the bonds of community; and creating opportunities for renewal, growth, and enrichment.

Department Description

The Department consists of four divisions:

Park Administration is responsible for fiscal and personnel management, clerical support services, staff support to the Parks, Recreation & Community Services and Arts & Culture Commissions, Cultural Affairs, and grant administration.

Park Planning & Development, also known as the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), is responsible for the renovation of existing facilities, the preservation of historical sites, the design and development of new parks and recreation facilities, the acquisition of land for the development of parks and recreation facilities, and the preservation of open space.

Park Services maintains all of the developed parkland and recreation facilities throughout the city.

Recreation & Community Services provides a variety of recreational opportunities, enrichment programs, and human services for all ages and abilities.

Relationship to City Strategic Goals
Arts & Culture

The department provides a wide variety of arts and cultural experiences throughout the community. These include, but are not limited to: the Open Studio Tour, Caesar Chavez event, Man's Inhumanity to Man event, Cruise Night event, the Summer Concert Series, the moonlight Movie Series, Theatre in the Park, Diamond Awards for the Achievement in the Arts, and support for the City's Unity Fest.

Health & Wellness

The department produces a Social Services Directory to raise awareness of the programs and services provided by organizations that are serving our community's families.

Community Services & Facilities

The department maintains a variety of public recreational facilities. These include, but are not limited to: three community centers, a senior center, twenty-seven picnic areas, five wading pools, twenty-five ball fields, a skate park, and more.

Parks & Open Space

The department maintains approximately 276 acres of developed parkland which is comprised of 39 parks and recreation facilities.

Major Accomplishments

Parks Administration has provided budgetary support for the various Parks sections, organized Arts & Culture events for the community, and successfully staffed the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Commission, and the Arts & Culture Commission. This section has worked hard with the CIP, Recreation, and Maintenance sections to continue providing safe and well maintained parks, recreational programs, and preserve open space while addressing fiscal difficulties. The Division has planned the Open Studio Tour, Diamond Awards, and Man's Inhumanity to Man events to enrich the community with arts and culture.

The Park Services Division successfully completed 2,240 work orders in the fiscal year.

Several major projects were undertaken, including but not limited to: the complete renovation of Montrose Park and Pelanconi Park ballfields; resurfacing of tennis courts at Emerald Isle Park, Glorietta Park, and Nibley Park; resurfacing of the basketball court at Emerald Isle Park; and the Doctor's House renovation which encompassed rebuilding the pillars, porches, landings, and painting of the entire site. The Division has already replaced urinals at two park facilities (Casa Adobe and Scholl Ballfield) with waterless urinals, and the Department's goal is to install these urinals at all park facilities.

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) successfully completed the following projects:

Renovation of seven park playgrounds which had outlived their useful lives and could no longer be maintained to the

required level of safety. Upgrades included removal of old play structures, removal of the sand used as surfacing, upgrading playground drainage, ADA access upgrades, installation of new play structures, and installation of new wood fiber surfacing. The parks that underwent this renovation were Carr Park, Dunsmore Park, Glenoaks Park, Fremont Park, Milford Mini Park, and Wilson Mini Park.

Renovation of all three baseball fields at the Scholl Canyon Ballfield facility. This included replacement and installation field lighting and irrigation system, repairs to existing ballfield turf areas and infields, replacement of backstops and bleachers, and improvements to field fences.

Complete renovation of restroom buildings at four parks: New York Park, Glorietta Park, Pelanconi Park, and Carr Park.

Complete renovation of the community buildings at Glenoaks Park and Dunsmore Park. The scope of work at these two sites included hazardous materials abatement, termite eradication, foundation and substructures, structural framing, roof replacement, new flooring, kitchen remodeling, and general remodeling of the interiors, as well as ADA/Title 24 compliance work.

Renovated the entire fire sprinkler system at the Civic Auditorium parking garage, and serviced the fire alarm system.

Recreation & Community Services Division offered a total of 296 classes to a total of 2,026 registered participants in the Life-Long Learning program.

The City of Glendale was awarded the Distinguished Site Award for both the Adult Recreation Center and Sparr Heights Community Center.

The Senior Services Program has assisted 49 seniors in maintaining their independence in their own homes and avoiding premature institutionalization

The Youth and Family Services Program compiled and printed 2500 comprehensive Social Services Resource Guides and distributed them in the community to various non-profit organizations, faith based organizations, and City departments.

"Sneak Preview," the City of Glendale float entry in the 2009 Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade, won the Past President's Award for the best use of floral and non-floral materials. A group of more than 400 youth and adult volunteers helped to decorate this year's float.

Changes from Prior Year

Budget Changes:

The change in the Department's budget during fiscal year 2008-2009 is a net decrease. The decrease is attributable to the following:

The elimination of 11 vacant positions within the department resulted in a total reduction of salaries and benefits.

Three full-time CIP positions (Project Management Administrator, Senior Project Manager, and Project Manager) were transferred to the CIP Fund, resulting in savings in General Fund. Also all CIP staff benefits will be charged directly to the CIP projects resulting in additional savings in the General Fund.

Reduction of hours at five community center facilities. This resulted in a total reduction in hourly wages.

Staffing Changes:

There was a net decrease of 11 full time positions during the fiscal year 2008/2009. A detail of these reductions is located within the four division descriptions.

Organizational/Program Changes:

None at this time.

PARKS - GENERAL FUND			
	Actual Expenditures 2007-08	Original Budget 2008-09	Proposed Budget 2009-10
Salaries & Benefits	8,901,651	9,967,918	9,373,701
Maintenance & Operations	3,251,919	2,861,304	2,998,228
Capital Outlay	211,888	65,000	29,000
Total Appropriations	12,365,457	12,894,222	12,400,929

PARKS - OTHER FUNDS			
	Actual Expenditures 2007-08	Original Budget 2008-09	Proposed Budget 2009-10
Salaries & Benefits	1,690,251	1,763,996	1,780,670
Maintenance & Operations	1,111,808	1,480,315	1,283,390
Total Appropriations	2,802,059	3,244,311	3,064,060

Future Outlook

Parks Administration

Continue to provide administrative support services to the remainder of the department.

Park Development

Staff will work to incorporate Green Building Design strategies for energy conservation and related operating costs. We will also take advantage of the current highly competitive bidding environment to reduce project costs while maintaining a high level of project design and quality.

Park Services

The Park Services Division will continually strive to look for ways to reduce operational costs while still

providing safe and clean park facilities for public use with allocated resources.

Our goal is to be able to continue the routine maintenance of our facilities, address demand/emergency work resulting from vandalism and aging infrastructure, and be able to conduct preventative maintenance (major renovation projects) in the parks, such as the roof replacement at the Casa Adobe and Babe Herman score-box.

Recreation & Community Services

Any future reductions in this division will more than likely result in the suspension or elimination of entire programs. The division will do it's best to continue as many programs and services possible with the given resources it has available.