



## PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026, 6:30 P.M.  
PUBLIC COMMENT IN-PERSON/TELEPHONE  
ART PICK COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL  
3900 MAIN STREET, RIVERSIDE, CA 92522

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PRESENT: Chair Matt Friedlander, Commissioners Thomas Forbes, Kevin Dawson, Stephanie Schaefer, Joshua Kopp, Oswaldo Puerta, Barry Johnson

ABSENT: Commissioner Chad Young

STAFF PRESENT: Pamela Galera, Noemi Lopez, Anthony Zamora, Jovan Fontenot, Jordan Maus, Sandra Campbell

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Sergeant Brett Stennett, Luis Fermatt

Chair Friedlander called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Friedlander introduced new Ward 5 Commissioner Oswaldo Puerta.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Caller, Malissa McKeith, representing Cure, shared information on the critical importance of setting aside sufficient water to maintain existing trees as well as those planned for future planting.

### PRESENTATIONS

#### RECREATION DIVISION HOLIDAY EVENT OVERVIEW

Deputy Director Noemi Lopez introduced Recreation Supervisor Jovan Fontenot who delivered an overview of the Recreation Division Holiday Events.

#### PARK AND NEIGHBORHOOD SPECIALIST (PANS) UPDATE

Deputy Director Anthony Zamora introduced Sergeant Brett Stennett who provided an update on Parks and Neighborhood Specialist operations.

#### THE URBAN FORESTRY POLICY MANUAL UPDATE

Urban Forestry and Landscape Supervisor Luis Fermatt, Public Works Department, provided an update on the Urban Forestry Policy Manual, the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service Grant Award, and the 2025 tree plantings, removals, and trimmings.

#### GAGE CANAL MULTIPURPOSE TRAIL MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Deputy Director Anthony Zamora introduced Project Manager Jordan Maus who provided an

update on Gage Canal Multipurpose Trail Master Plan.

### CONSENT CALENDAR

The following matter, presented to the Park and Recreation Commission on the Consent Calendar for consideration, was approved by one motion affirming the action appropriate to each item:

### MINUTES

The minutes of December 8, 2025, were approved as presented.

Motion: Forbes  
 Second: Johnson  
 Abstain: None  
 Ayes: Forbes, Dawson, Schaefer, Kopp, Puerta, Johnson, Friedlander  
 Absent: Young

### DISCUSSION CALENDAR

#### WORK PLAN REVIEW

A motion was made to schedule a special meeting to review the City Charter and develop the Park and Recreation Commission 2026 Annual Work Plan.

Motion: Schaefer  
 Second: Forbes  
 Abstain: None  
 Ayes: Forbes, Dawson, Schaefer, Kopp, Puerta, Johnson  
 Absent: Young

### COMMUNICATIONS

#### UPDATES OF EVENTS OR MEETINGS ATTENDED BY COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner Kopp attended:
  - December 13, Winter Wonderland from 9 a.m. – Noon at Hunt Park
  - December 13, Arlington Pickleball Complex Grand Opening 10 a.m. at Arlington Park
- Chair Friedlander attended:
  - December 13, Arlington Pickleball Complex Grand Opening 10 a.m. at Arlington Park

#### ITEMS FOR FUTURE COMMISSION CONSIDERATION

- Commissioner Dawson requested future agenda items:
  - Review of the City Charter
  - Waterfowl Incident addressed.
  - Commissioners to take over the Commission Agenda
  - Water quality of the lakes at Fairmount Park

- Discuss security steps of the undeveloped area of Islander Park
- Commissioner Puerta requested:
  - Deferred Maintenance and Infrastructure – how is prioritized in each ward
  - Update on plans of any New Senior Centers being developed in the City
  - Brief overview of infrastructure needs are prioritized in each ward
- Commission Schaefer requested future agenda items:
  - Return of PANS -hours of service
  - Discuss Pickleball operations

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Deputy Director Noemi Lopez announced:
  - Youth Basketball games for all divisions will take place on Saturdays at various Community Centers, beginning at 8:00 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 16, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

Chair Friedlander adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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SANDRA D. CAMPBELL  
Sr. Administrative Assistant