

# Agenda Report

**DATE: November 7, 2001**

**TO: CITY COUNCIL**

**FROM: RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION**

**SUBJECT: FY 2002 WORK PLAN FOR THE RECREATION AND PARKS  
COMMISSION**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive and file report and approve FY 2002 Work Plan for the Recreation and Parks Commission (Commission).

**BACKGROUND:**

Pursuant to the City Council's (Council) request and in compliance with the City's Municipal Code, the information presented in this report summarizes:

- 1) the highlights, accomplishments, and attendance record of the Commission from October 1, 2000, through September 30, 2001, and
- 2) the Commission's FY 2002 Work Plan.

The Commission is currently comprised of 9 members. Each of the 7 Councilmembers and the Mayor nominate 1 member for a total of 8 and the Mayor nominates the remaining member from persons recommended by the Council. The present Commissioners are: Gregor Edwards (District 1), Tom Selinske (District 2), Bill Ukropina (District 4), Michael Hurley (District 6), Frank Osen (District 7), Anita Fromholz (Mayor), and Elizabeth Pomeroy (Mayor). The Commission appointments from District 3 and District 5 are currently vacant.

The Commission is staffed by both the Parks and Natural Resources Division of the Public Works and Transportation Department and the Human Services, Recreation, and Neighborhoods Department, who provide information and guidance on citywide programs and projects.

**SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**  
**OCTOBER 2000-SEPTEMBER 2001**

1. Revised and completed the five-year Recreation Plan that resulted in a 20% increase in neighborhood parks programs and 15 hours per week increase in recreation site staff.
2. Supported and participated in Pasadena area Youth Sports Council for the purpose of identifying and maintaining additional playing fields for the area's youth.
3. Worked with the Commission's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Committee and staff to reprioritized capital improvement projects in parks throughout the City in support of Americans with Disabilities (ADA) requirements.
4. Worked with the Commission's CIP Committee and staff to identify projects in the Arroyo to implement with the 10% set aside funds from the Green Fees at the Brookside Golf Course.
5. Worked with staff and the community on the development and scope of the Robinson Park Master Plan that is now ready to be presented to City Council.
6. Worked with the Commission's Arroyo Committee, staff and the community on the development of the Central Arroyo Master Plan (CAMP), which has culminated in conceptual approval from the City Council.
7. Worked with staff and the community to receive approval for the naming of the Off Leash Area to be located in Eaton Wash Park after long time resident and Recreation and Parks Commissioner Alice Frost Kennedy.
8. Supported and participated in the development of budget enhancements to both the Recreation Department for programs and services and the Parks Division for turf renovation and field maintenance.
9. Assisted in the development of Playground Improvement Projects, which received an additional \$900,000 in appropriations from the Council.
10. Promoted Tom Sawyer camperships by having Commission representatives work with principles of Tom Sawyer, Inc., to establish an eligibility list and award of 27 camperships to deserving youth in the Pasadena area.

**FY 2001-2002 WORK PLAN**

The Commission continues to direct their efforts to work in concert with the goals and objectives of both the Council and City Departments. The Work Plan projects developed by the Commission listed below take into account the following considerations:

- To work with Council on their priorities, in particular with the Council's goal to "Focus on Planning, Programming, and Reinvesting in our Parks and Parklands";
  - That the Commission continues to develop a strong communication network between departments with common goals for the community, other City Commissions, and neighborhoods to strengthen the activities and development of the City's parks;
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- Work closely with City Council, Field Representatives, neighborhood associations, businesses, foundations, etc., for the purpose of advocating enhanced recreation programs and improved and well-maintained parks.

The following are the Commission's goals for FY 2002:

**1. *Citywide Park Master Plan Study***

- Establish an Ad Hoc Committee to study the scope, process, goals, priorities and costs of a Citywide Master Plan.

**2. *Adopt new Recreation Plan including:***

- Raise visibility and identify potential funding sources for after school recreation services and other programs
- Work with staff to identify and develop transportation alternatives for youth interested in visiting Pasadena recreation facilities.
- Support centralized reservation management system
- Support the new Park Safety Specialists Program Rangers to enhance supervision of parks and appropriate field use
- Improve Tom Sawyer campership selection process to better target the needs of the community

**3. *Playground Renovation.***

- Establish an Ad Hoc Committee to assist staff in the implementation of the Capital Improvement Program
- Develop design standards for surfacing and equipment
- Oversee public input process

**4. *Arroyo Projects***

- Seek City Council approval of the Central and Lower Arroyo Master Plans including approval of the environmental documentation
- Review and recommend approval of the Environmental Impact Report
- Support staff with capital improvements throughout the Arroyo

**5. *Completion of Off-Leash Dog Area in Eaton Wash Park***

- Identify funding sources to complete the improvements to the park and schedule the opening of the off-leash dog park
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**6. *Develop and cultivate public and private resources to promote Commission's financial goals.***

- Develop a "tour" brochure which will outline park highlights for officials to visit, to increase publicity about the parks and gain financial support for their maintenance and enhancement
- Strengthen the Recreation and Parks Commission's relationship with the Recreation and Park Foundation and work to make the foundation more active

**7. *Maintain Park Budget Enhancements to address:***

- Maintenance and Safety Issues
- Capital Projects
- Turf Renovation
- Parkland Acquisitions

**8. *Improve Tom Sawyer Campership selection process to better target the needs of the Community***

**9. *Develop better definition and recognition of the Urban Forestry Advocacy Committee***

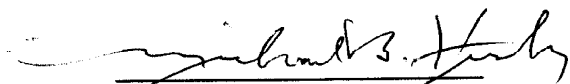
**FISCAL IMPACT**

The current adopted Capital Improvement Program budget includes funds for implementing various elements of the master plans for Hahamongna and the Lower Arroyo. The FY 2002 operating budget includes \$873,308 for field and turf renovation, and enhanced levels of park maintenance. The Commission vigorously supports staff efforts to seek grants from local agencies as well as from the State and Federal levels to assist in implementing recreation programs and projects such as increasing accessibility in the parks, developing an off leash area, playground improvements, and expanded recreational opportunities.

**COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR:**

As Chair of the Recreation and Parks Commission, and speaking for the full Commission, I would like to acknowledge the continued excellent support and assistance we received from the Parks and Natural Resources Division of Public Works and Transportation Department and the Human Services, Recreation, and Neighborhoods Departments.

Respectfully submitted:



MICHAEL HURLEY, Chair  
Recreation and Parks Commission