

P&CS DEPARTMENT OCTOBER UPDATES



NEW STAFF- RECREATION
FIELD AND FACILITIES WORKER,
FRANK SOLIS

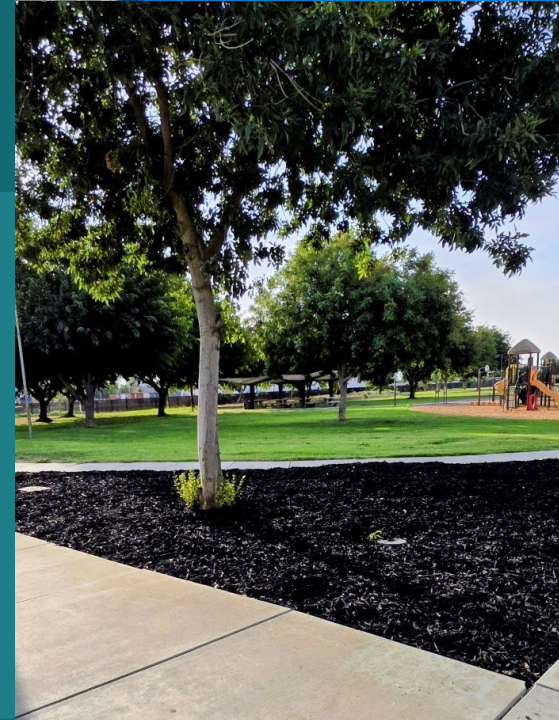


BUDGET UPDATE

- Department has been awarded \$77,000 in grant funding for memorial at General Vang Pao Park
 - Park design is at 65% and moving to 95% next month. Hope to be out for Bid by December 2025 and in contract by March 2026
- Department has received authorization from Merced County to use allocated funding for CP42 South
 - Assessing priorities and costs to add additional field (5 total), court lighting, and additional parking and restrooms
 - Still determining affordable expenses
 - MOU is being requested for extension to June 30th 2026



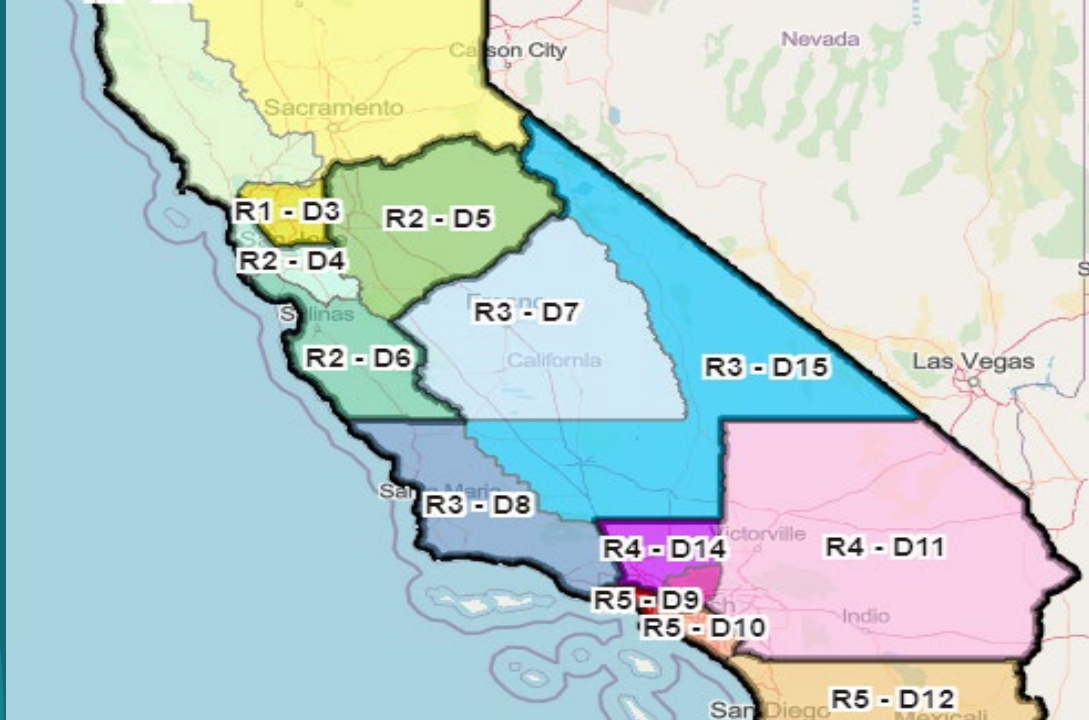
COMMUNITY GIVING- PARTNERSHIPS WITH PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES



California Parks Recreation Society

Advancing California Park & Recreation Profession and Stakeholders

CPRS CONNECTIONS CONFERENCE & EXPO- MARCH 10-13TH
LONG BEACH, CA



Community

Connecting one another through the passion of the profession.



Advancement

Communicating and demonstrating the importance of parks and recreation as a vital community service.



Resources

A variety of tools that help elevate the parks and recreation profession.



Development

Learning and leadership opportunities that strengthen professionals.

CPRS- STAFF CONNECTIONS, TRAINING, and EXPOSURE



CPRS- NEW FRONTIER, ADVOCACY SECTION

25-26 Advocacy Section Committees	Name	Agency	Elected / Staff	Email	Notes
COMMUNITY - Initiate the connection between the Advocacy Section to the established Sections and Districts to reinforce "One CPRS" <i>Possible actions: reach out to other sections and see how they can use us; feature section in the CPRS newsletter for Advocacy news; and invite members of other sections & districts to participate in the Advocacy Section.</i>					
Chair	Teri deRosier	Cosumnes CSD	Staff	teriderosier@cosumnescsd.gov	Confirmed
Members					
	Jim Wheeler	Haward Area RPD	Staff	whej@haywardrec.org	Confirmed
	Tara Gee	City of Roseville	Staff		
ADVANCEMENT - Communicate and demonstrate the importance of parks & recreation as a vital community service <i>Possible actions: create a marketing campaign to maximize the PMLB brand; create and implement a dynamic set of advocacy talking points that empower members to confidently champion the value of parks & recreation; define how elected & appointed can support other actions/tactics.</i>					
Chair	Oscar Flores	City of Bell Gardens	Staff	oflores@bellgardens.org	Confirmed
Members					
	Scott Jorey	City of Concord	Staff	jorey.scott@cityofconcord.org	Confirmed
	Enyelber Franco	City of Costa Mesa	Staff	enyelber.franco@costamesaca.gov	Confirmed
	John Doss	Templeton CSD	Staff	jdoss@templetoncsd.org	Confirmed
RESOURCES - Build a strong and effective network to address advocacy needs <i>Possible actions: leverage strengths and relationships of electeds and staff; fundraising benefit events; option to give \$ to advocacy when you join CPRS; larger membership opportunity.</i>					
Chair	Nick Calubaquib	City of Watsonville	Staff	nick.calubaquib@watsonville.gov	Confirmed
Members					
	John Doss	Templeton CSD	Staff	jdoss@templetoncsd.org	Confirmed
	Becky Herz	Orangevale RPD/Sacramento Regional Parks	Staff/Appointed	becky@ovparks.com	Confirmed

Program Updates- MAZ ZOO BOO

MERCED APPLGATE ZOO PRESENTS

ZOO BOO

OCTOBER 24TH, 25TH, AND 26TH
5:30PM-7:30PM

JOIN US FOR A SCARY GOOD TIME
WITH SPOOKY ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS, TRICK
OR TREATING, COSTUMED FUN AND MORE!

PRICING TO BE ANNOUNCED

TO VOLUNTEER PLEASE
FOLLOW THE LINK IN OUR
STORY!

MERCED
Parks & Community Services
Parks Make Life Better!

1045 W. 25TH ST. MERCED CA

MERCED APPLGATE ZOO
Where every animal has a story!



PROGRAM UPDATES- SPECIAL EVENTS



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Merced Applegate Zoo

Merced Regional Sports Complex

Bob Hart Square

General Vang Pao Park

Kiddieland







General Vang Pao Park

- Playground Purchased- all-inclusive design
- Monument Awarded the CA Arts in Parks Grant \$78,000
- Phase 1 design almost complete 65%-moving to 85% next month and hope to be out for bid in Dec.
- Construction to start this Winter, opening scheduled Summer 2026

Playground Highlights

- 2-12 year old wheelchair accessible platform based play area with incorporated shades and music panels
- On grade, triple wide hill slide with transfer station
- Shade covered Swing Area
- Wheel chair accessible merry go round
- Rope climber for kinesthetic interaction



Aletha June Playground

GENERAL VANG PAO PARK

A new all-inclusive themed playground



GENERAL VANG PAO MONUMENT



General Vang Pao Memorial



Pebble Harp



General Vang Pao Portrait in Steel



Stone Pillars with Corn Finial

Bronze Donor Plaque

Rice Field In Iron Terraced Seating

HIGH SPEED RAIL UPDATE

- California's high-speed rail project is slated to receive \$1 billion a year in funding through the state's cap-and-trade program through 2045 — a relief to lawmakers who had urged the Legislature to approve the request as billions of dollars in federal funding remain in jeopardy.
- State leaders called the move, which is pending a final vote from the Legislature, a necessary step to cementing investments from the private sector — an area of focus for project officials. And the project's chief executive, Ian Choudri, said the agreement is crucial to completing the current priority — a 171-mile portion from Merced to Bakersfield — by 2033.
- “This funding agreement resolves all identified funding gaps for the Early Operating Segment in the Central Valley and opens the door for meaningful public-private engagement with the program,” Choudri said in a statement. “And we must also work toward securing the long-term funding — beyond today's commitment — that can bring high-speed rail to California's population centers, where ridership and revenue growth will in turn support future expansions.”
- Ian Choudri, CEO – California High Speed Rail, LA Times, September 12, 2025



COMMUNITY PROGRAM AND FACILITY SPONSORSHIPS



We Put the Unity in Community



QUESTIONS and ANSWERS