

City of San Diego  
Parks and Recreation Department  
San Ysidro Community Recreation Group  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, February 10, 2025

**“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”**

**Meeting Held at:**

San Ysidro Senior Center  
125 E. Park Ave.  
San Ysidro, CA 92173

**Mailing Address is:**

125 E. Park Ave.  
San Ysidro, CA 92173

**Members Present:**

Consuelo Delgadillo  
Rosa Ruesga  
Juan Lopez  
Martin Ortega

**City Staff:**

Francisco Castruita, Area Manager  
Mari Jo Ricanor, Recreation Center Direct  
Robert Lara, Recreation Center Director  
Jacqueline Hernandez, Recreation Center Director  
Jonathan Rascon, Pool Manager II  
Giancarlo Lopez, Council District 8 Representative  
Brice Ciabatti, Project Manager

**Members Absent:**

David Guerrero  
Ricky Duran  
Felipe Muro

**Guests:**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairperson Martin Ortega called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m. Introductions were made around the table for those in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 18, 2024, MINUTES:**

- **MOTION:** It was moved /seconded (R. Ruesga/J. Lopez) to accept the minutes as presented. The motion carried with 3 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstention.

**FORMAL REQUEST FOR MEMBERSHIP:**

None

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE:**

None

**COMMUNICATIONS:** (Limited to items not on the agenda. Each one will be limited to three minutes and is not debatable)

None

**CITY OF SAN DIEGO MAYOR’S REPORT:**

None

**ASSEMBLYMEMBER, DISTRICT 80 REPORT:**

Robert Lara read the report on behalf of Lilianna Barba, Field Representative for David Alvarez:  
Assembly Office Services

- They can help with state related issues. Please call the district office at (619) 498-8580.

## Legislative Updates

- Assemblymember David Alvarez introduced Assembly Bill 30 (AB 30) to require the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to adopt a regulation authorizing transportation fuel blends of up to 15% ethanol (E15) by July 1, 2025. If CARB fails to meet the deadline, then AB 30 makes E15 legal for sale and use in California.
- Assemblymember Alvarez introduced Assembly Bill 358 (AB 358) to allow law enforcement to examine devices belonging to deceased victims to investigate their death. AB 358 will also allow law enforcement to examine devices used by stalkers and criminals to spy on others. The San Diego District Attorney is sponsoring this bill.

## Events

- Assemblymember Alvarez is hosting a first-time homebuyer workshop on Saturday, February 22, at Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center in National City at 10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

## **COUNCIL DISTRICT 8 REPORT:**

Giancarlo Lopez, CD8 Representative reported the following:

### Howard Lane Neighborhood Park Improvements Meeting

- Monday, February 10, 2025, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the San Ysidro Senior Center.

### USIBWC Citizens Forum

- Thursday, February 13, 2025, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the San Ysidro Civic Center, 212 W. Park Avenue, San Ysidro 92173. Learn updates about the South Bay International Water Treatment Plant, water output, monitoring programs and related issues.

### Tree Stewardship Workshops in CD8 and CD9

- Saturday, March 1, 2025, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. at the San Ysidro Civic Center. Urban Forestry Program is offering a workshop for residents. A free workshop to learn about trees in their community, along with best practices for tree planting and care.

### Casa Familiar Parking Series

- Saturday February 11, 2025, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the San Ysidro Civic Center. Meeting to discuss parking and parking solutions designed to organize community members, and brainstorm solutions for the problems afflicting San Ysidro commuters.

### San Ysidro Dumpster Drop-off

- Saturday, February 15, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Boston Avenue (off Camino de la Plaza) San Ysidro 92173. Dispose unwanted items in a dumpster drop-off on We do not accept oil, paint, appliances, or tires.

### Honorary Street Renaming “Grace Kojima Drive”

- Otay Mesa Road and Beyer Boulevard was officially, honorarily renamed as “Grace Kojima Drive.”

### Proposed Parking Meter Fee Increase

- Parking meter increase by 100% in the City of San Diego to mitigate the current budget deficit. Projected to generate \$9.6 million in additional cost recovery revenue.

### Affordable Housing Preservation Ordinance

- Affordable housing preservation ordinance in San Diego, supported by the SDHC, which would require properties with deed-restricted homes to notify the City of any intent to sell and provide the opportunity for those properties to be purchased by affordable housing developers or entities to extend and preserve their affordable status.

### FY2026 Budget Development and FY 2025 Budget Monitoring

- Flyer was handed out to everyone containing a calendar of “Key Dates” of planned release of budget-related reports for both the operating and Capital Improvements Program, and corresponding presentations to Council committees and to the full City Council.

## **SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY RELATIONS REPORT:**

None

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:**

As everyone is preparing for the holidays, Martin wishes everyone a safe holiday and New Year.

**BUDGET TO ACTUALS REPORT:**

Robert Lara and Mari Jo Ricanor reported the most recent financial RCF Budget to Actuals report to everyone for SYCAC.

**BOARDMEMBER COMMENT:**

None

**SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS:**

None

**COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS:**

Consuelo Delgadillo of Hearts and Hands informed everyone that the monthly food distribution has returned to the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The past two months were relocated to the San Ysidro Public Library. Walking distribution is in the parking lot of the church at 2020 Alaquinias Drive, San Ysidro 92173. Consuelo passed out a flyer to everyone containing the food distribution dates and locations which is offered free to the community.

**PARKS & RECREATION STAFF REPORT:**

Area Manager Francisco Castruita reported the following:

- Beyer Park project's scheduled completion is October 2025.
- Coral Gate Neighborhood Park project will complete June 2025.
- SYCAC improvement project will be completed August 2025.
- Vista Terrace Neighborhood Park's rubberized surface for the playground was completed last month. Staff received many compliments on the new surfacing.
- Maintenance staff completed a major weed abatement project at Vista Pacifica Neighborhood Park. The entire slope on the West end of the park was cleaned out. Staff filled a 40-yard roll off dumpster with weeds that were removed.
- New LED security park lights were installed at Vista Pacifica. Unfortunately, there was an issue with the three lights. It has been resolved and the lights are in working order. The park is fully lit and shines brightly at night.
- Last month staff encountered a broken water main line at Howard Lane Neighborhood Park. Aztec Landscaping contractor who maintains the park repaired the broken line.
- Thanked and commended San Ysidro area recreation staff for a job well done during Winter school break. Staff offered a variety of programs, camps, and special events.

Recreation Center Director Mari Jo Ricanor reported the following for Cesar Chavez Community Center:

- 12u Flag Football team received runner up and 14u team received 1<sup>st</sup> place at Citywide Championships which was held at Cesar Solis Park on December 14, 2025.
- Santa's Workshop took place on Saturday December 14 inside Cesar Chavez Gym. 250 participants enjoyed music, face painting, arts, and crafts, visit with Santa and carnival games.
- Staff is currently coaching youth basketball. Age divisions include Pee Wee, 10u, 12u, 14u, and 16u. Staff is hosting 12u and 14u/16u at Cesar Chavez gym.
- Acoustic Sound Panels were installed last month. It has reduced a lot of the echoing inside when gym is full of people playing basketball.
- Afterschool meals are still being distributed free to ages 0 to 17 years old, Monday-Friday at 4:30 p.m.
- City Interns were off boarded on January 31, 2025. Staff is hoping to reinstate them in March when funding becomes available.

Recreation Center Director Robert Lara reported the following for San Ysidro Community Activity Center:

- The San Ysidro Community Activity Center is currently closed for an ADA Improvements Project. Staff were reassigned to the San Ysidro teen center effective January 6, 2025.
- We have 6 youth basketball teams with a total of 49 players. Our pee wee teams are playing at South Bay, 10u and 12u Girls are playing at Montgomery Waller, and 12u and 14u are playing at Cesar Chavez.
- Kenpo Karate Class is taking place on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Teen Center with 8 participants.
- The Hafta Yoga class from SYCAC relocated to the Silverwing teen center.
- Unfortunately, the San Ysidro dance team is on break due to recreation center availability. We are hoping some space opens this upcoming Spring.

Pool Manager Jonathan Rascon reported the following for Vista Terrace Pool:

- A new class is being introduced. Water Walking is being offered Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 2:00-3:00 p.m.
- Swimming Lessons registration begins at 12:00 p.m. Registration can be in person or online at SDRRecConnect.com

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

Jacqueline passed out a flyer to everyone regarding a pop-up event on U.S. Passport applications. It will take place at the San Ysidro Senior Center on Friday, February 21, 2025, from 10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Howard Lane Neighborhood Park Improvements- Brice presented a power point showing different options to choose for the redesign of the tot lot and adult exercise equipment. CRG members and the public present at tonight's meeting voted on which options to build at Howard Lane.  
**MOTION:** It was moved /seconded (R. Ruesga/J. Lopez) to approve action item #1 with the voted option of the redesign for Howard Lane tot lot and adult exercise equipment. The motion carried with 3 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstention.
2. San Ysidro CRG Meeting Frequency- Staff requested from CRG members input on how frequent meetings should occur: Monthly, Bi-monthly, or on a Quarterly basis.  
**MOTION:** It was moved /seconded (R. Ruesga/J. Lopez) to approve action item #2 which keeps the meeting frequency to holding meetings monthly. The motion carried with 3 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstention.

**WORKSHOP ITEMS:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson Martin Ortega adjourned the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Monday March 10, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.  
San Ysidro Senior Center  
125 East Park Avenue, San Ysidro, CA 92173  
(619) 534-3377

Submitted By:

Reviewed By:

Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mari Jo Ricanor  
Recreation Center Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Francisco Castruita  
Area Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Martin Ortega  
Chairperson