



REPORT

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO TO THE PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

DATE ISSUED: June 9, 2025

REPORT NO: 101

ATTENTION: Park and Recreation Board
Agenda of June 26, 2025

SUBJECT: General Development Plan for Sunshine Berardini Field

SUMMARY

Issue – Should the Parks and Recreation Board recommend approval of the General Development Plan (GDP) for Sunshine Berardini Field?

Department Recommendation – Recommend approval of the General Development Plan (GDP) for Sunshine Berardini Field.

Other Recommendations – The following groups have reviewed and considered the proposed project. Actions taken and recommendations made by the first group is listed under Discussion below.

Colina del Sol Community Recreation Group
City Heights Community Planning Group

Fiscal Impact – The estimated total project cost for the design and construction of the improvements to Sunshine Berardini Field is approximately \$26,400,000. No funding source has yet been identified.

Water and Energy Conservation Status – The proposed improvements to Sunshine Berardini Field will comply with all water and energy conservation guidelines contained in Council Policy 200-14.

Climate Action Plan (CAP) Impact – The proposed action implements Strategy 5 – Resiliency of the CAP with the target of achieving 35% urban tree coverage by 2035. This action allows for the future planting of 160 trees, increasing the City's urban tree coverage, which has shown to reduce GHG emissions.

Strategic/Tactical Equity Plan Impact – The proposed action provides for future access to clean, safe, well-maintained parks, open space, and landscaped areas which will serve areas in and around Climate Equity Index communities of concern (Mid-City) by reducing impediments to program participation and by contributing to connect all San Diegans with their local park by understanding and offering desired community recreation activities, programs, and events.

Environmental Status -

The City of San Diego, as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), will initiate the preparation of a Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Chollas Creek Watershed Regional Park Master Plan. A key component of this master plan is the development of the Sunshine Berardini Field site. In association with the preparation of this PEIR, a Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program (MMRP) to address potential adverse environmental impacts to the environment will be implemented.

BACKGROUND

The proposed project involves the design and construction of significant improvements to the existing Sunshine Berardini Fields, located at 4402 Federal Boulevard in the Ridgeview/Webster communities of Mid-City: City Heights, within Council District 4. The site, situated east of Interstate 805, encompasses approximately 11.3 acres of City-owned land and currently contains three baseball fields operated and maintained by the Sunshine Little League under a long-term Special Use Permit issued by the Parks & Recreation Department.

The project aims to upgrade the existing baseball facilities while introducing a broad range of recreational and public amenities to transform the site into a fully accessible community park. Proposed improvements include the expansion of the existing parking lot, the demolition and replacement of the current restroom with a new facility that includes a concession stand and community meeting room, the construction of a new standalone restroom, and a new parking area. Additional amenities include new children's play areas, pickleball courts, on-street angled parking, accessible walkways, and improved lighting (both security and sports lighting).

Other key features of the project include the installation of shade structures, site furnishings (such as picnic tables, benches, barbecues, hot coal bins, water fountains, and trash receptacles), upgraded bleachers, dugouts, bullpens, and backstops, as well as new storage facilities. The project also incorporates landscaping and drainage improvements, enhancements to trail connections with the adjacent Oak Park Trail (including a new kiosk), the addition of an outdoor exercise area, and the creation of an overlook trail and plaza.

This redevelopment effort is intended to meet the City's population-based park acreage requirements as outlined in the General Plan, while providing expanded recreational opportunities for the broader community.

DISCUSSION

On March 19, 2025 the Colina del Sol Community Recreation Group voted to approve the GDP for Sunshine Berardini Field (5-4-2) with the following recommendations:

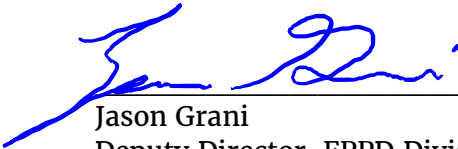
- Install a pedestrian crossing signal at the park entrance along Federal Boulevard to facilitate safe trail access. This crossing would serve pedestrians traveling along the trail on the north side of Federal Boulevard (within the park) who need to cross to the continuation of the trail on the south side, which extends west of the park.

This recommendation was not included in the General Development Plan (GDP) for Sunshine Berardini Park, as the proposed crossing lies outside the park boundary. However, it will be evaluated and addressed during the park's design phase.


ALTERNATIVES

1. Approve the GDP for Sunshine Berardini Park as presented.
2. Approve the GDP for Sunshine Berardini Park with modifications.
3. Do not approve the GDP for Sunshine Berardini Park.

Respectfully submitted,



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JG/mc

cc: Council District 4 & 9 Office