

The City of



Parks and Recreation Department

Citywide Recreation Services

Division Profile

Fiscal Year 2026

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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PROGRAM MANAGER

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City Vision

To connect all to the City's diverse, world-class park system.

City Mission

To provide healthy, sustainable, and enriching environments for all.

Strategic Goal Alignment

Protect and Enrich Every Neighborhood

Connecting communities to safe public spaces that offer opportunities to learn, grow, and thrive.

Foster Regional Prosperity

Promoting economic growth and opportunity in every community, for every San Diegan.

Tactical Equity Plan Alignment

Access to enjoyable, fulfilling recreational opportunities for all.

Foster employee-centric sustainable growth and development.

Cultivate a diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment for our employees and the public.

Overview

Citywide Recreation Services Division provides overall direction, leadership, management, and planning for the Parks and Recreation Department.

Responsibilities include:

- Recreation Services management:
 - Management of Recreation Center Fund and Opportunity Fund Budgets
 - Oversight of Department programs, events and contract service providers
 - Administration of diverse, equitable and inclusive services
 - Marketing and community outreach
 - Community Recreation Groups
- Therapeutic Recreation Services:
 - Provides sports, recreation, leisure and outreach services to people with physical, mental and emotional disabilities.
 - Design programs and activities to maintain or improve the physical, cognitive and social functioning of those who have limitations.
 - Provide programs and outreach.
- AgeWell Services:
 - Provide recreation, health and wellness opportunities and community resources for adults aged 55 and older.
- Civic Dance:
 - Provide instruction for beginner through advanced level classes in tap, jazz, ballet, hip hop and musical theatre dance to children and adults of all ages.

Facts and Figures

FY 2026 Budgeted Positions	FTE 44.85
FY 2026 General Fund Adopted Budget	\$ 5,487,117
FY 2026 Recreation Center Fund Budget	\$ 8,808,102
Current and Pending Grant Awards	\$ 1,375,258
FY 2025 # Department-wide programs	8,087
FY 2025 # Program Enrollment	120,685

Citywide Recreation Programs, Equity, and Budget

Geographic Area: Citywide

Council Districts: All

Headquarters: 9458 Aero Drive
San Diego, CA 92123
Mail Station: 5D

Management Team: **Juan Razo, Supervising Recreation Specialist**
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Angie Beasley, Senior Management Analyst
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About Citywide Recreation Programs, Equity and Budget

Responsible for department-wide recreation programming and events, contract administration, and policy development to ensure the delivery of equitable recreation services to approximately 350,000 children, adults, and older adults. Oversee fiscal management of 62 Recreation Center Fund budgets and the Opportunity Fund budget. Ensures Department's commitment to a diverse, equitable menu of recreational programs available at all recreation centers and parks. Assist with securing funds for equitable programming. Manage the pre-qualified program and event vendors list. Develop and standardize the Department's social media profiles and marketing program. Generate graphic design and publishing of program guides and events flyers. Liaise with non-profit organizations, outside agencies, and stakeholders involved in providing funding for programs. Assist with trainings on Department Standards and Policies. Assist with managing the Department's registration, permitting, and fee schedule.

Civic Dance Arts

<u>Geographic Area:</u>	Citywide
<u>Council Districts:</u>	All
<u>Headquarters:</u>	Balboa Park Club 2150 Pan American Road West San Diego, CA 92101 619-235-5255
<u>Management Team:</u>	Andrea Feier, Supervising Recreation Specialist Telephone: (619) 235-5255 Cell Phone: (619) 379-0034 Email: afeier@sandiego.gov

About Civic Dance Arts

Founded in 1942, the Civic Dance Arts Program has introduced hundreds of thousands of citizens to the art form of dance. Classes are currently offered at 21 city recreation centers and Balboa Park facilities at affordable prices, with fees waived in some cases. This enables children and adults from all economic and cultural backgrounds to fully participate in the study of dance.

Beginning through pre-professional level instruction is offered in disciplines such as jazz, tap, ballet, modern, hip hop and musical theater. In addition to our ongoing classes, there are affordable summer camps for youth and specialty workshops and master classes offered throughout the year. Civic Dance Arts emulates the highest standards of nationally renowned private and non-profit programs; a program which now attracts the highest caliber instructional and student talent while providing instruction at the least cost in the community.

Unique to the program, each spring brings workshops for advanced level, audition only Companies. San Diego Civic Dance Arts Companies provide advanced level conservatory training and performance opportunities. All four companies perform in various events year-round, representing the City of San Diego. Many of our advanced level dancers have gone on to successful careers in dance and the arts.

Affordable one-week Summer Camps are available to dancers ages 8-17 years, with a showcase performance at the end of each week. Also available are our adult workshop (full convention-style day of dance for Adults and Seniors) and our Boys Day of Dance (full day of dance for boys 6-17 years).

With the support of San Diego Civic Dance Association, all of our students are given many different performance opportunities, such as December Nights, our critically acclaimed dance Collage in February, Production Finales as well as the highly anticipated Yearly Recitals held at the beautiful Casa Del Prado Theater in historic Balboa Park.

Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Statistics:

of classes 408

of camps 4

of locations 21 Recreation Centers and Balboa Park facilities

of students 6,530

of community performances 40

of performance attendees 17,000

Revenue \$241,861.17

Fee Waiver subsidized class revenue \$49,952.40

San Diego Civic Dance Association is a non-profit, all volunteer, public benefit organization.

Mission Statement: *Our mission is to support and promote a premiere dance arts program and an appreciation of the arts, in cooperation with the San Diego Parks and Recreation Department Civic Dance Arts Program.*

Every year, our dedicated volunteers give over 20,000 hours of their time to support the many programs of the City of San Diego's Civic Dance Arts program. While the City fee covers the cost of the dance classes, each year our hardworking volunteers work to raise over \$130,000 to cover the costs of our performances and additional programs.

San Diego Civic Dance Association funds and produces performance opportunities for dancers taking classes with the City program. From Recitals, Collage, December Nights, Fundraising Night of Theater and many more, our pledge is to provide a complete education and performance experience for our dance community.

In addition to performance opportunities, SDCDA funds financial aid, merit scholarships, college scholarships, costume assistance as well as specialty dance training opportunities for both dancer and teachers alike. Our pledge is to build and maintain a strong dance program that supports all of our students and teachers, no matter their age or ability level.

Therapeutic Recreation Services Power Beach Wheelchair Program

Geographic Area: Citywide

Council Districts: All

Headquarters: Park de la Cruz Community Center
3901 Landis St., San Diego, CA 92105
Telephone: (619) 525-8247

Management Team: **Kristi Fenick, District Manager**
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Park de la Cruz (PDLC) Community Center

Although Therapeutic Recreation Services and AgeWell Services provide citywide programs and services, PDLC is the headquarters of these programs. PDLC is a three-story community center, where inclusive programs and services are offered.

The center has a number of multi-purpose rooms, in addition to a fitness center, media room, computer lab, industrial kitchen, children's playroom and sensory room for those with sensory impairments. In addition, there are outdoor and indoor pickleball and basketball courts, skatepark, children's playground and a program garden.

Therapeutic Recreation Services

Therapeutic Recreation Services provides therapeutic recreation programs, leisure education, sports opportunities, and outreach services to people with disabilities, ages 3-adult. Staff plan and conduct an average of 60 recreation programs monthly, as well as special events, and sports tournaments. Therapeutic Recreation Services collaborates with other agencies to sponsor additional recreation and leisure opportunities for all. An estimated 35,000 people annually are served through programs and outreach services. Therapeutic Recreation Services is nationally recognized for many of its adaptive wheelchair sports and recreation programs. Recipients of services include, but not limited to persons with:

- Physical disabilities (spinal cord injuries, cerebral palsy, spina bifida, amputees)
- Developmental disabilities (autism, cognitive impairments, Down syndrome, etc.)
- Learning disabilities
- Blind and visual impairments/Deaf and hard of hearing
- Brain injuries
- Mental illness and behavioral disorders
- Injured service members

Therapeutic Recreation Services has a large volunteer program, which features opportunities for individuals to gain experience working with people with disabilities. Many of the recipients of services also volunteer in the program, to gain knowledge and skills for prospective employment. Volunteers provide an average of 10,000 hours of service to the program annually.

Statistics for Fiscal Year 2025:

- 19,880 persons provided outreach services
- 9,746 persons participating in therapeutic recreation programs
- 5,613 persons participating in co-sponsored programs

Beach Power Wheelchair Program

Therapeutic Recreation Services is responsible for the operation of two (2) power, two (2) manual beach wheelchairs, one Freedom Trax, and up to twenty feet of Access Trax mats located at the Mission Beach Lifeguard Station, 3141 Ocean Front Walk. Staff check-out the equipment to patrons with mobility impairments and instruct them in the safe operation of the equipment. The Freedom Trax device is a motorized wheelchair track attachment designed to transform an individual's wheelchair into an off-road chair ideal for beach use. Patrons can access the beach in the comfort of their own wheelchair. Access Trax mats extend the walkway from the boardwalk to the sand to assist people with limited mobility who need extra physical assistance through the sand. Manual beach wheelchairs are available at all City of San Diego lifeguard stations for use. In addition, staff provide information and referral to patrons on accessibility issues and other services available for persons with disabilities. Many of the users are out of town tourists. Usage varies from 20-75 patrons per month, with approximately 150 inquiries answered monthly during peak season.

Inclusion Aides

Therapeutic Recreation Services assist recreation center staff in providing programs to **all** citizens to meet the requirements set forth by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Children and adults with various types of disabilities should always be welcomed at all Parks and Recreation Programs. Due to the nature of the disabilities, some of these individuals require the assistance of an aide to participate in the activities. Aides provide one-on-one assistance in performing various recreation activities, close supervision of participants, monitor behaviors, and ensure the overall safety of all the participants. Many individuals with disabilities would not be able to participate in recreation center activities and programs without the assistance of an aide. The ADA prohibits staff from requiring individuals to bring an aide to assist in recreation participation, or from charging the person additional fees to hire an aide.

Therapeutic Recreation Services assists with registration, assesses the needs of the individuals, and arranges for reasonable accommodations, including the hiring and training of inclusion aides to provide individual assistance. Therapeutic Recreation Services also provides training to City recreation staff members on how to work with persons with disabilities, as well as technical assistance in program planning and design to assure accessibility for all participants.

In Fiscal Year 2025, approximately 50 children with autism and other developmental disabilities, participated in day camps, dance, soccer, gymnastics, and other classes at many of the 60 recreation centers throughout the City of San Diego. Many of these children demonstrated increases in recreation skills, social skills, and appropriate behavior while participating in programs with the assistance of inclusion aides. In addition, children without disabilities demonstrated increased tolerance and sensitivity toward those with differences. New friendships were formed, and parents were extremely pleased that their children with disabilities could participate in activities at their neighborhood recreation centers along with siblings and peers.

AgeWell Services

Geographic Area: Citywide

Council Districts: All

Headquarters: Park de la Cruz Community Center
3901 Landis St., San Diego, CA 92105
Telephone: (619) 525-8247

Management Team: **Kristi Fenick, District Manager**
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Sharon Moninger, Sup. Aging Recreation Specialist
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AgeWell Services (AWS) enhances the lives of older adults by providing opportunities for social interaction, recreation, health and wellness, education, community enrichment and volunteerism. AWS's goal is to facilitate social interaction, promote lifelong learning, encourage creative expression, enhance physical fitness and well-being, and enable successful aging for adults age 60 and better. Recreation programs and special events include:

- Bi-weekly theme dances
- On-going weekly recreational/social/fitness activities, health and wellness opportunities
- Quarterly out-of-town bus trips & quarterly local excursions
- Art Display and Reception
- Talent Show
- Craft Sale
- Photography Display and Reception
- Performing Arts Productions
- Congregate Meal programs
- Educational Presentations

Statistics for Fiscal Year 2025:

- 18,910 older adults participated in dances, special events, daily recreation/fitness activities, and out of town trips.
- 7,924 older adults participated in co-sponsored activities.
- 47,016 persons received information/outreach services and supportive services assistance.

Volunteer Program

AgeWell Services (AWS) has a large volunteer program, which features opportunities for individuals to gain administrative, customer service, food service and recreation experience. Benefits to the senior volunteers include socialization, cognitive stimulation, sense of belonging, use and retention of previously learned skills, pride and feeling of accomplishment, opportunity to give-back to community, decreased isolation, and sense of purpose, which all contribute to independence and healthy living. AWS has approximately 60 volunteers who provide support on a weekly or special event basis and contribute over 9,000 hours of service annually.

Senior Lounge

AgeWell Services maintains a senior lounge in Room 105 of the Casa del Prado, located in Balboa Park. The lounge was first made available to older adults in the 1960's and is provided as a drop-in place of rest and relaxation for older adults visiting Balboa Park. In addition, various social activities are offered daily, including knitting, improv workshops, bingo, and walking groups. Over 700 older adults visit the lounge monthly.

Senior Lunch

The city collaborates with Serving Seniors to provide hot, nutritious lunches to adults ages 60 and older each weekday from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. at Bay Terraces Community Center, Park de La Cruz Community Center, and Memorial Senior Center. Meals are provided at no cost to eligible older adults, but voluntary contributions of \$1.00 are appreciated. Guests under the age of 60 will be charged \$4.00 for their meal. Serving Seniors provides approximately 1,100 meals per month to older adults.

Social Call Program

AgeWell Services (AWS) collaborates with San Diego State University Center for Excellence in Aging and Longevity to provide older adults a friendly phone call (depending on the patron's request, calls are made up to seven days per week) from an AWS' volunteer. Approximately 100 patrons are enrolled in the Social Call Program. AWS' volunteers conduct approximately 470 calls per month, averaging 1,450 minutes of phone calls to older adults.

Parks and Recreation is committed to meeting goals of the Age Friendly San Diego Action Plan, adopted by City Council in December 2021. AWS' staff are available to assist Parks and Recreation staff on outreaching to their communities to determine community interests and needs, as well as assist with community referrals and program implementation.

Senior Centers Operated by City Staff

Location	Address	Phone Number
Balboa Park Senior Lounge	1650 El Prado San Diego, CA 92101	(619) 235-1191
Bay Terraces Community & Senior Center	7373 Tooma Street San Diego, CA 92139	(619) 527-7632
Cathy Hopper Clairemont Friendship Center	4425 Bannock Avenue San Diego, CA 92117	(619) 453-3850
Memorial Senior Center	610 S 30th Street San Diego, CA 92113	(619) 235-1141
Park de la Cruz Community Center	3901 Landis Street San Diego, CA 92105	(619) 525-8247
San Ysidro Senior Center	125 East Park Avenue San Diego CA 92173	(619) 247-4207