City of San Diego
Regional Park Improvement Fund Oversight Committee
Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 16, 2026

"TO PROVIDE HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE, AND ENRICHING ENVIRONMENTS FOR ALL"

Meeting Held by In Person and Teleconference:

This meeting was held at Balboa Park Club – Santa Fe Room and remotely using the Zoom Webinar platform and was streamed online. The public was invited to join the meeting by phone or computer, as well as invited to submit "Public Comments" in writing via a webform. The form was made available on the Parks and Recreation website at https://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/general-info/boards.

NOTE: Both verbal and written communication were used by Committee Members, City staff, and presenters during the meeting. City staff also used the screen-share function to allow viewers to view content shared by the speakers, which included PowerPoint presentations and websites.

Before the meeting was called to order, City staff read instructions to the public regarding technical procedures for making live public comment during the webinar.

Members Present	Members Absent	City Staff Present
Nick Anastasopoulos Jeremy Bloom Dr. Marcella Bothwell (Chair) Dr. Andrea Dooley Rick Gulley (Vice Chair) Daniele Laman Evelyn Smith Allison Soares Agatha Wein	Director Andy Field Dr. Judith Munoz Nick Anastasopoulos	Dike Anyiwo Ryan Barbrick Laura Burnett Maria Carriedo Benjamin Cartwright Karen Dennison Lynn Edwards Robin Kaufman Sherry Kempin Kim Mathis Deputy Director Louis Merlin Justin Nguyen Danielle Nourie-Burns Andre Smith Sally Smull Gabriela Verendia

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Gulley (Acting Chair) at 3:20 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF May 21, 2026

MOTION/SECONDED:

A motion for approval was made by Ms. Laman to approve the minutes, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Bloom. The motion was approved and passed 8-0-0.

Public Comments: None

Board Comments: None

NON-ADOPTION AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CONSENT AGENDA: None

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE: None

COMMUNICATIONS: None

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

101. Allocation of Regional Parks Improvement Funds to CIP B27022 Organ Pavilion Parking Lot Rehabilitation

Presenters: Ryan Barbrick, Program Manager, Parks and Recreation Department

Mr. Barbrick presented a request to allocate **$500,000** from the Regional Park Improvement Fund (RPIF) to support the Organ Pavilion Parking Lot Improvement Project in Balboa Park.

The presentation included:

- Project background and purpose.
- Improvements proposed for the Organ Pavilion Parking Lot.
- Funding sources and the recommended RPIF allocation.
- Project timeline and anticipated construction schedule.
- Benefits to park visitors and support for Balboa Park programming and events.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: None

MOTION/SECONDED:

A motion to approve was made by Ms. Gulley and seconded by Mr. Bloom. The motion was approved 8-0-0 and passed.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

201. Update on Capital Improvements Projects Progress and Expenditures

Presenter: Parita Ammerlahn, Acting Deputy Director, Engineering & Capital Projects Department, City of San Diego

Ms. Ammerlahn presented an update on the progress and expenditures of Capital Improvement Projects utilizing Regional Park Improvement Funds (RPIF).

The presentation included:

- An overview of active RPIF-funded Capital Improvement Projects.
- Project status, schedules, and construction progress.
- Expenditure reports and benchmarking of design, project delivery, and construction management costs.
- Examples of completed and active projects, including the Botanical Building and Joyce Community Park Phase I.
- Discussion of statewide benchmarking standards used to evaluate project delivery costs.
- Planned improvements to future reporting to provide greater transparency and simplify project performance metrics.

Board Comments:

Chair Bothwell requested that future presentations clearly demonstrate how individual projects compare to statewide benchmarking standards. She recommended simplifying the reporting format by providing an easy-to-follow calculation showing how benchmark percentages are derived, allowing Board members to readily determine whether projects are meeting established performance targets. She also requested that benchmark calculations be presented in a consistent "apples-to-apples" format that is easier for the public and Board members to understand.

Chair Bothwell further suggested providing a summary identifying how many projects are meeting benchmark targets and how many exceed benchmark thresholds, while continuing to include project-specific information for public transparency. She also supported providing individual project benchmark percentages and highlighting projects that fall outside established benchmarks for additional discussion.

Mr. Bloom suggested simplifying future reports by separating projects that meet benchmarking standards from those that do not. He stated that a summary identifying projects outside the benchmark would help the Board focus its discussion while still allowing community members to review information regarding projects in their own neighborhoods.

The Board discussed reporting frequency and generally supported receiving a comprehensive presentation twice annually, with quarterly written project updates made publicly available so community members could monitor individual projects between presentations.

During the project status updates, **Ms. Laman** asked whether Board members could ask questions as each project was presented. She also inquired whether the proposed Southcrest Community Park Lighting Improvements were located within the floodplain because of previous flooding at the park. Staff responded that the lighting improvements were located along elevated walkways and outside the floodplain.

Later in the presentation, **Chair Bothwell** requested that future expenditure reports separately identify consultant design costs in addition to City personnel costs. She explained that the Board would like greater visibility into consultant expenditures while continuing to encourage the use of in-house design whenever practical. Staff responded that the Department has been increasing its use of in-house resources and would address those efforts later in the presentation.

Ms. Ammerlahn acknowledged the Board's recommendations and stated that future presentations would incorporate the requested changes, including simplified benchmark calculations, clearer reporting formats, identification of projects outside benchmark ranges,

consultant cost information, and continued transparency regarding project expenditures and performance.

WORKSHOP ITEMS: None.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Copies of the reports, attachments, PowerPoint presentations, and audio-video recordings can be found on the Parks and Recreation Department website at http://www.sandiego.gov/parkandrecboard/reports.

Next Calendared Meeting: September 17, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

Andy Field
Director
Parks and Recreation Department