

City of San Diego
Parks and Recreation Department
San Ysidro Community Recreation Group
Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 14, 2026

“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”

Meeting Held at:

San Ysidro Community Activity Center
179 Diza Road
San Ysidro, CA 92173

Mailing Address is:

179 Diza Road
San Ysidro, CA 92173

Members Present:

Martin Ortega
Manuel Lopez
Juan Lopez
Felipe Muro

City Staff:

CJ Saldana, Area Manager OCA
Mari Jo Ricanor, Recreation Center Director
Robert Lara, Recreation Center Director
Jackie Hernandez, Recreation Center Director
Suzy Torrez, Recreation Center Director
Vanessa Viramontes, Assistant Recreation Center Director
Carlos Edington, San Diego Police CRO
Rodrigo Morales, Council District 8 Representative

Members Absent:

Placido Villarreal
Rosa Ruesga
David Guerrero
Consuelo Delgadillo

Guests:

Harold Oliver
Carmelin Rivera
Martin Gaminho
Lilianna Barba

CALL TO ORDER:

CRG Chair Martin Ortega called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Introductions were made around the table for those in attendance.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 8, 2026 MINUTES:

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

FORMAL REQUEST FOR MEMBERSHIP:

Martin Gaminho informed staff he is interested in becoming a CRG member. Staff requested he attend two more consecutive CRG meetings to become a member. September 14, 2026 has been recorded in the minutes as his first meeting.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE:

None

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

Felipe informed everyone that this year's Villa Cup ran 120 games in a day. Great turnout honoring Ricky Duran who the tournament has now been renamed after as the 'Ricky Duran Villa Cup'.

CITY OF SAN DIEGO MAYOR'S REPORT:

None

COUNCIL DISTRICT 8 REPORT:

Rodrigo Morales reported the following:

- District 8 Recreation Funding: Councilmember Moreno added an amendment to redirect \$100,000 in future Surf Club lease revenue to District 8 recreation centers. This includes \$34,000 for a new scoreboard at

Montgomery-Waller Park and the remainder split among other district parks. Moreno said the Opportunity Fund has not met its goal in District 8 and that residents deserve equal access to quality recreation programs.

- Affordable Housing Preservation Fund: A new fund was created to support housing preservation efforts, alongside other equity-focused measures.
- An honorary street renaming ceremony for former San Ysidro School District Superintendent and SY Women's Club President Grace Kojima.
- San Ysidro Public Library has reopened. Closed due to water damage that needed to be repaired.
- San Ysidro War Memorial Monument will be unveiled tentatively in November on Veteran's Day. It will be placed in front of the SY teen center which was formally the SY Public Library.
- Working on repairing sidewalks along San Ysidro park areas.
- Please check the City of San Diego government website under Council District 8 Office of Vivian Moreno for July 2026 District 8 Newsletter. It includes highlights of local projects, council priorities, and community events.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER DISTRICT 80 REPORT:

Lilianna Barba handed out flyers regarding Assemblymember David Alvarez upcoming 4th Annual College Opportunity Fair on October 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information, call (619) 498-8580.

SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY RELATIONS REPORT:

Community Relations Officer Carlos Edington reported the following:

- Introduced Police personnel who were guests at this evening's meeting: Lt. Harold Oliver and Lt. Carmelin Rivera. Both are currently assigned to Southern Division.
- Limitations to enforcement of inhabited vehicles and motorhomes due to the Bloom settlement.
- Increase in thefts at the San Ysidro shopping outlet. Please be aware of your surroundings when shopping and storing packages in your vehicles. Avoid having them in plain view and lock securely in trunk if possible.
- Gang incidents have increased in the Nestor-Otay Mesa area.
- The Officer-involved shooting that occurred on July 29 at the Villanueva apartments in San Ysidro is uploaded on 'YouTube' under SDPD channel.
- Captain Leos retires from SDPD on October 23.
- Get It Done: Encouraging everyone to use the City's online portal for reporting non-emergency issues, scheduling appointments, and accessing information. Reports show a low percentage of GID reports being submitted from citizens in the San Ysidro.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

None

BUDGET TO ACTUALS REPORT:

- Susana Torrez reported to everyone most recent financial RCF Budget to Actuals report for the San Ysidro Community Activity Center which includes budget expenditures of the San Ysidro teen center and senior center.
- Mari Jo Ricanor reported to everyone most recent financial RCF Budget to Actuals report for San Ysidro Larsen Field Community Center.

BOARDMEMBER COMMENT:

None

SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS:

None

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS:

None

PARKS & RECREATION STAFF REPORT:

Area Manager OCA CJ Saldana reported the following:

- Thanked Center Directors for the work they did in the Summer and their continued work for the Fall season.
- Sports Banquets were held for Futsal and Girls Softball at area recreation centers.
- Athletic Sports lighting upgrades have been installed and working well at Larsen Field.
- Larsen Field CC was identified to receive upgrades for their current Air Condition system.

- Howard Lane NP received new mulch which was spread in needed areas of the park thanks to a work effort by the Grounds Maintenance staff.
- Welcomed Arleen Shinder back as the Recreation Leader II in San Ysidro. She was formally the Assistant Recreation Center Director here at SYCAC.
- Vista Terrace NP and Coral Gate NP are in the process of having leaks repaired in the park restroom and drinking fountain.
- Beyer Park is tentatively scheduled to open between November- December months. Project is moving along well, and an update will be reported next month on its's progress.
- Working with Google and Google maps to update Cesar Chavez name change and closure notices for SYCAC.
- Get it Done tickets are currently being addressed with repairs and submittals of service requests to Public Works if City staff cannot repair or resolve the issue.
- Barbeque grills are currently being replaced in the San Ysidro park areas as needed.

Recreation Center Director Mari Jo Ricanor reported the following for a San Ysidro Larsen Field Community Center:

- 'Teen Nites' ran from June 27 to August 7. Successful events are held on Friday from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Great partnership with SDPD Officers who participated with teens during the duration of the events.
- Free Afterschool meals given to youth remain ongoing Monday-Friday starting at 2:30 p.m. until food is gone.
- Staff participated in post-season play. Pee Wee teams participated in a game exhibition, 12u and 14u teams were Citywide finalists. 17u girls' softball team were City finalist, and 12u girls' softball team won Citywide Championship.
- Staff are currently coaching youth in flag football and volleyball. League play will begin in October.
- Staff ran Nature Camp with 21 participants registered.
- Janette Montero is the new Assistant Recreation Center Director at Larsen Field. She comes from Ocean Beach Recreation Center.
- Halloween Carnival will take place on October 23.

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

- The ribbon cutting for the re-opening of the San Ysidro Community Activity Center took place on July 28, 2026. Mayor Todd Gloria and Representative Juan Vargas were in attendance.
- Teens will attend the annual 'Haunted Trails' on September 23.
- Fall Festival will take place on October 28.
- There were 44 participants playing in 4 Futsal divisions and 10 girls playing in the 12u Softball division.
- Registration for Flag Football is still open and there's 23 players currently registered.
- Registration for Volleyball is closed. There are 41 players registered to play this upcoming season.
- Dance class has resumed at San Ysidro after being relocated to Silver Wing due to the facility closure.

Recreation Center Director Suzy Torrez reported the following for and San Ysidro Teen Center:

- Staff are currently taking registration for the upcoming Flag Football and Volleyball season.
- Registration is now open for Fall camp during student break.
- Staff will take teens on a field trip to the upcoming 'Haunted Trails' on September 23.
- Daily snacks Monday-Friday are still being served to youth, provided by 'Heaven's Window'.
- The teen center has been designated a 'Cool Zone' area for those who want to get out of the heat.

Recreation Center Director Jackie Hernandez reported the following for and San Ysidro Teen Center:

- Staff held a successful Father's Day event. There were 52 participants.
- Senior Karaoke had 52 registered.
- Senior Classes of Loteria, Zumba and Yoga are still ongoing.
- Staff is planning a Costume contest for Halloween for the Seniors
- Fiestas Patrias event is scheduled this week at 3:00 p.m. food, music and dancing will take place.
- Staff still have issues with parking lot being used for personal space by nearby residents. Will work with SDPD on signage or coning off spaces for program participants. Seniors have to park and walk far in order to use the Senior Center.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

None

ACTION ITEMS:

None

WORKSHOP ITEMS:

1. FY28 Recreation Center Fund Budget:
San Ysidro Community Activity Center and San Ysidro Larsen Field Community Center
 - Robert reported SYAC draft budget requesting CRG feedback to modify budget to report next month.
 - Mari Jo reported Larsen Field draft budget requesting CRG feedback to modify budget to report next month.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- Comsports is in the process of obtaining office space at the San Ysidro Community Service Center.
- Addition funding has been secured to install the WWII Memorial Monument in front of the San Ysidro Teen Center.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Martin Ortega adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Monday October 12, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
San Ysidro Community Activity Center
179 Diza Road, San Ysidro, CA 92173
(619) 424-0472

Submitted By:

Reviewed By:

Approved by:

Mari Jo Ricanor
Recreation Center Director

CJ Saldana
Area Manager OCA

Martin Ortega
Chairperson