

## Section 20

### Parks

# Parks Department

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## NO PRESENTATION

### SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Goleta Beach 2.0 Concept Plan: County staff crafted a concept plan for Goleta Beach that responds to concerns from the California Coastal Commission.
- Environmental Practices: Partnering with General Services to implement cost saving measures, a 10% reduction in water usage was identified mid-year FY 2009-10. The performance measure showed water usage spiked dramatically for certain locations helping to pinpoint where the problem was using performance data. The result saved money through eco-friendly practices at the County Courthouse and the repair of water leaks at Orcutt Community Park.
- “Free Outdoor Movies . . . with a Santa Barbara County Connection” at the Courthouse Sunken Gardens: County Parks and the County Park Foundation spearheaded a successful series of outdoor film screenings during the Summer of 2009, attracting thousands of residents and visitors to this landmark outdoor venue. Co-sponsored with the Courthouse Legacy Foundation, Arts Commission, and Santa Barbara Film Commission, all films featured County locations or key film affiliates with a county connection. County Parks partnered with the City of Lompoc to screen a movie in Ryon Park, as well as with the Friends of Waller Park for a movie screening in Santa Maria.
- Courthouse Grounds Weddings Reservations Program: County Parks implemented a fee and reservation system

at the Historic County Courthouse Grounds in August, 2009. This program now provides assurance to wedding parties of a reserved space at one of six designated areas, at the Sunken Gardens, ranging in price from \$100 to \$500. In addition to a new service to the public, this is a new source of revenue for the County.

#### SERVICE LEVEL REDUCTIONS

- Six percent of the FY 2010-11 Recommended Budget is comprised of a one-time source of funding. This source will fund salaries in all Parks divisions. There will be no funding source in future years, thus a new funding source will need to be identified, expenditures decreased or service levels reduced including the closure of parks and facilities.
- Reduced staffing levels will affect the response time to maintenance requests and services prioritized to maintain customer service expectations for services meeting the departmental mission.
- In order to maintain core service levels full funding of the South County Operations Manager, Park Ranger, and Administrative Office Professional as well as Park supplies (toilet paper, soap, bio-bags, small tools) and tree trimming contracts would be needed.

#### LAYOFFS IN RECOMMENDED BUDGET

- None.

#### BUDGET EXPANSION REQUESTS

- None.

## RECOGNITION AWARDS

The Parks Department received formal recognition for their work during FY 2009-10 by various professional associations.

- California State Association of Counties Honorable Mention: Quagga Inspection Program
  - American Public Works Association: Goleta Beach Sand Replenishment Project
  - California Parks and Recreation Society, District 8: Outstanding Program Category – Wedding Program at the Sunken Gardens
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